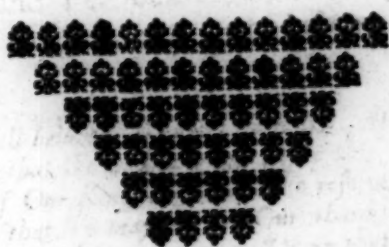
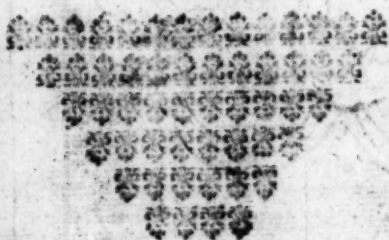


THE
HISTORY
OF THE
PARLIAMENT
OF
ENGLAND,
From MDC LXI.



Printed in the Year, 1688.

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Printed in the Year 1888.

Monday, 13 May, 1661.

Sir *Heneage Finch* Reports from a Conference had with the Lords, a Vote and Resolution Which their Lordships had passed, to which they desired the Concurrence of this House, and is as followeth.

We the Lords and Commons do humbly tender our acknowledgments and thanks unto your Majesty, for that free and gracious communication of your resolution to Marry with the Infanta of Portugal, which we conceive to be of so high concernment to this Nation, as that we receive it with great joy and satisfaction, and do with all earnestness beg a blessing upon, and a speedy accomplishment of it; and we cannot but express our own unanimous resolutions, (which we are confident will have a general influence upon the hearts of all your Subjects: that we shall upon all occasions be ready to assist your Majesty in the pursuance of those your intentions against all oppositions whatsoever.

Resolved, That this House doth concur with the Lords in this Vote and Resolution, and that the Persons that managed the last Conference do acquaint the Lords, that this House had passed the like Vote and Resolution on *Saturday* last, and received a Message from his Majesty to attend him at 4 of the Clock this afternoon; and if the Lords can be ready at that time, this House will wait upon them, or otherwise must observe the time appointed.

Sir Heneage Finch acquaints the House, that he did acquaint the Lords with the said Message.

A Message from the Lords to acquaint this House, that his Majesty had appointed both Houses to attend his Majesty this afternoon at the *Banqueting-house* in *White-hall*, at 4 of the Clock, with their Vote and Resolution. To which the House agreed.

Mr. Speaker reports, That the Lord Chancellor, with the Lords, as also the House of Commons, had attended his Majesty with the said Vote and Resolution of both Houses, which was read by the Lord Chancellor to his Majesty; after which, his Majesty was pleased to desire the Lord Chancellor to return his Thanks to the House of Lords, and then commanded the Speaker of this House to return his Thanks unto the Commons, and to inform them, that he did in the matter of his intended Marriage as much study their good as his own; and so took his leave of them both.

Sunday, 22 June, 13 Car. &c.

Mr. Secretary Morrice delivers a Letter from his Majesty to *Mr. Speaker*, which *Mr. Speaker* read in the House, and is as followeth.

For Our Trusty and Well-beloved *Sir Edward Turner Knight*, Speaker of Our House of Commons, to be communicated to the House.

C. R.

Trusty and Well-beloved, We greet you well. At the opening Our Parliament you were told, that We had a great desire this Summer to make a Progress through some parts of Our Kingdom, which We resolve to begin in devotion to Our City of Worcester, that We may pour out Our thanks to God for Our deliverance there. And the season of the year quickens Us in that inclination, as we presume it disposes you to a desire to withdraw from this City, and to visit your Countreys. But you may remember We told you then, that We had caused some Bills to be prepared for you, for Confirmation of what We Enacted at our last Meeting. And We said all that We could to you of the value We set upon the Act of Indemnity, as We have great reason to do; and if We could have used stronger expressions to have conjured you speedily to have dispatch'd it; We assure you, We would have done it; and We did think what We had said would have made impression in all who profess a desire to serve Us: And therefore We expected every day, that the same Bill would have been presented to Us for another Assent. We must confess, We hear you have

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shewed great affection to Us since your coming together, and that you would have already prepared and passed some very good Bills (for which We heartily thank you) that are ready for the Royal Assent. Yet We cannot but tell you, that though We are enough concerned to expedite those Bills, We have no mind to pass them till the Act of Indemnity be likewise presented to Us; upon which (if you take Our Word) most of Our quiet and good depends; and in which, We are sure our Honour is concern'd. Therefore We must again, and as earnestly as possible conjure you, to use all possible expedition in the passing that Act in the same Terms We already pass'd it, to which We take Our Selves obliged, and that you will for the present lay aside all private business; that so betaking your selves only to the Publick, you may be ready to adjourn by the middle of the next month, which will best suit with all Our occasions. And so not doubting of your readines to comply with Us in these Our just and necessary desires, We bid you heartily farewell.

Given at Our Court at White-hall, the 21 day of June, 1661. in the 13th year of Our Reign.

William Morrice.

Ordered, That such Members of this House as are of his Majesties Privy Council, do return the humble Thanks of this House to his Majesty for his Gracious Letter; and that they have leave to acquaint His Majesty, that upon the Reading of his Letter, the House have passed the Bill for confirming the Act of Indemnity, and other publick Acts: And they are also to desire his Majesties leave for Printing of his Letter.

Monday, 8 July, 1661.

His Majesty having sent for this House to attend him in the House of Peers, the House with Mr. Speaker thereupon went up accordingly to wait on his Majesty; and Mr. Speaker upon his return, reported, that the King had made a Gracious Speech, wherein he expressed his ardent desire to pass the Act for Confirmation of Publick Acts, wherein the Act of Indemnity was included, and that all former Offences might be no more remembered, till a new occasion should be given. And that it was his Majesties pleasure, that the publick business might be dispatched, so as the House might be adjourned by the 20th. of this month; and that in the mean time this House would only intend the dispatch of the publick business.

Monday, 29 July, 1661.

Ordered, That such Members of this House as are of the Privy Council do attend his Majesty, and desire him to issue out a Proclamation, to restrain the great number of Horses and Oxen that are employ'd in Waggon, Carts, and Carriages, and also the great Burthens that are carried therein, (whereby the High-ways are much prejudiced) and to confine the Horses and Oxen which are employed, and the Burthens which are carried in Waggon and Carts, to such numbers and proportions, that the High-ways may be preserved. And that the Members of this House of the Privy Council do likewise desire his Majesty, to prohibit all Re-building or Repairing of any Houses in or near the Cities of London and Westminster upon old Foundations, except it be with Stone and Brick.

Thursday, 21 November, 1661.

Ordered, That a Message be sent to the Lords, to desire their Concurrence with this House, to Petition his Majesty to issue out a Proclamation, for disarming the Disbanded and Cashier'd Officers and Soldiers, and to command them to depart from, and not to approach within twenty miles of this City, for such time as his Majesty shall think fit; and Mr. Secretary *Morrice* is to carry up this Message to the Lords.

A Message from the Lords to acquaint this House, that their Lordships had agreed to the last Message, and have appointed six of their Members to attend his Majesty, to know when he will be waited upon.

Then this House named twelve of their Members to attend his Majesty likewise from this House.

Friday, 22 November 13 Car. II.

Ordered, That the Kings Majesty be desired to send for *John Lambert* and *Sir Henry Vane* back again to the Tower of London, in order to their Trial; and that his Majesty be further desired to send for *Hardress Waller*, lately called *Sir Hardress Waller*, and such other persons Attainted of High Treason, (as were lately sent away) back again to the Tower, to the end they may be in readines to attend this House when they shall be called; and *Sir Richard Everard*, *Mr. Tompkins*, *Sir Thomas Lee*, &c. are to attend his Majesty from this House with this Message.

Sunday,

Sunday, 23 November, 13 Car. II.

Mr. *Tompkins* reports, that the Committee had waited upon his Majesty, and presented him the Order of this House; which he graciously read, and returned this Answer, That he would take care, that *Vane*, and *Lambert*, and *Waller*, should be brought in safe Custody. And that in the close his Majesty took notice of the word [*others*] in the Order, and exprest how exceeding much he was beholding to the House of Commons for their great Gift, and the manner of it, in giving it so freely.

Thursday, 28 November, 13 Car. II.

Mr. Secretary *Morrice* informing this House, that his Majesty making the good of his People the subject of his thoughts, and considering that the calling in of Money, called the *Common-wealths Money*, by the last of this month, might be prejudicial to his People, and hazard the Exportation of a great part thereof, was graciously pleased, by the advice of his Privy Council, to direct a Proclamation to be issued, signifying his Majesty's pleasure to accept of the said Money in any Payment to be made to his Majesty till the 25th. of *March* next.

Ordered, That Mr. Secretary *Morrice* do return the humble Thanks of this House to his Majesty for his grace and favour therein.

Tuesday, 3 December, 13 Car. II.

Ordered, That the Members of this House, who are of his Majesty's Privy Council, Mr. *Cofferey*, and Sir *Roger Bradshaw*, do humbly represent unto his Sacred Majesty, that this House hath received credible informations from several parts of the Kingdom, of divers designs and attempts to disturb the publick Peace; and to beseech his Majesty to be pleased to take care for the prevention and suppression thereof, and for the securing the Peace of the Kingdom, in such manner as his Majesty in his Princely Wisdom shall seem meet.

Monday, 9 December, 13 Car. II.

Mr. Speaker informed this House, that the King's Majesty was pleased to send a Message to him, that he had restrained Mr. *Lovelace*, one of the Members of this House, who was going to fight a Duel.

Resolved, That the Members of this House who are of his Majesties Privy Council, do return to his Majesty the humble Thanks of this House for his Grace and Favour, in being so tender of the Privileges of this House, as to acquaint Mr. Speaker therewith.

Tuesday, 10 December, 13 Car. II.

Resolved, That such Members of this House as are of his Majesties most Honourable Privy Council, together with the Lord *Bruce*, do wait upon his Sacred Majesty, and do present unto him the humble desires of this House, that 60000*l.* of the 18 months Assessment be distributed, as his Majesty in his Princely wisdom shall think fit, amongst such of his Majesty's Loyal and Suffering Subjects, who have faithfully and constantly served his Majesty and his Royal Father in the Wars, that are most necessitous.

And when the Bill for raising the said 18 Months Assessment is sent up to the House of Lords, the said Members of this House are then to wait upon his Majesty with this Message.

Wednesday, 18 December, 13 Car. II.

The House being moved in the behalf of the *Coal-streamers*, and other Soldiers that served under the Lord General *Monck*, at his coming out of *Scotland* into *England*, to know their opinion, whether in their Vote and Address to his Majesty to send the Disbanded Officers and Soldiers out of Town, and to prohibit them from approaching within twenty miles of the Town, the said Officers and Soldiers formerly serving under General *Monck* as aforesaid, were intended to be included.

Resolved, That the intention of this House in their Vote for an Address to his Majesty, to issue his Proclamation for the Disbanded Officers and Soldiers departure from, and not to approach within twenty miles of this Town, was not to include the said Officers and Soldiers which served under, and marched with the Lord General *Monck*, at his coming out of *Scotland* into *England*, and such as were instrumental in his Majesties Restoration; and that the Concurrence of the Lords be desired to this Vote, and Sir *James Smith* is to carry the same up to the Lords for their Concurrence: And such Members of this House as are of his Majesties Privy Council, are desired to acquaint Majesty with this Vote.

Thursday, 19 December, 13 Car. II.

Resolved, That an humble application be made to his Majesty, to give Warrant for the detaining of the Wools lately made stay of, as they were Transporting beyond the Seas, and to seize upon the Scrues and other Instruments devised and made use of for the close packing of Wools, to deceive his Majesty of his Customs, and to spoil the Manufacture of the Kingdom; and Sir *Richard Ford* and Mr. *John Jones* are to wait upon his Majesty with this Message; Mr.

Mr. Solicitor reports, from a Conference desired by the Lords concerning the *Coal-freemasters*, that the Lords could not concur, and that the Proclamation was at large, as with safety in this conjuncture of affairs it could extend. His Majesty having granted license to those that had been recommended by the General, and there being some who were not to be trusted.

Mr. Solicitor reports further, from a Conference had with the Lords, upon a Message sent by his Majesty to the House of Peers, That the Lord Chancellor declared, that the same did concern things of a high and dangerous Nature, and that there had been a real design, which had been forming ever since *March* last, to disturb the union and peace of the Kingdom, and named several of the Parties engaged, with the manner and contrivance of their Traiterous design, and the progress they had from time to time made therein: And although their designs were at present disordered, as to the effecting of them in this Town, to which end they had made a general invitation of Disbanded Officers and Soldiers, and other disaffected persons, to resort hither about the 11. of this month; yet they were still practising to put the same in execution in the Countrey, and that the Lords to provide a Remedy against these evils, had appointed a Committee of Twelve of their House, and did propose it to this House to appoint an answerable number of their Members to be joyned with the Lords, who might (during the Recess) examine the said Traiterous designs, and to report it to the House, with such expedients as they shall find necessary for preventing and suppressing thereof, and securing the Peace of this Kingdom in the juncture of affairs; and that they were to meet at the Lodgings assigned to my Lord Chancellor in *White-hall*, and to Adjourn from time to time, and place to place, as they find convenient.

Resolved, That this House doth agree with the Lords, to appoint a Committee of Twenty four Members of their House to be joyned to the Committee appointed by the Lords, as aforesaid.

Tuesday, 7 Jan. 13 Car. II.

Sir *Richard Ford* made report, That he and Captain *Jones* had attended his Majesty with the Order of this House of the 19 of *December* last, concerning Wools, and Scrues, and other Engines, for the close packing of Wool, and that his Majesty was graciously pleased readily to order, that the Engines should be taken and brought on shoar, which was done accordingly.

Friday, 10 Jan. 13 Car. II.

Ordered, That such Members of this House as are of his Majesties Privy Council do wait upon his Majesty, to put his Majesty in mind of the former Order of this House, whereby his Majesty was humbly desired to send for *Lambert* and *Vane*, in order to their Trial, and *Waller* and the other Persons attainted of High Treason, to attend this House when they shall be called: And to beseech his Majesty to take an account of what hath been done in execution of his Majesty's commands therein.

Thursday, 16 Jan. 13 Car. II.

Mr. Secretary *Morrice* reports, That in obedience to the Commands of this House, he, and the other Members of this House, who were of his Majesties Privy Council, did remind his Majesty to remand *Lambert* and *Vane*, and also *Waller*, and the other Persons also attainted of High Treason, who were sent away: And that his Majesty had graciously received the Message, and would take present care about it. And that his Majesty having (to gratifie this House) enlarged the time for accepting the late Coin in Payments to his Majesty from the First of *March* till the First of *May*; and was informed by several Officers of his Exchequer and Mint, that it would be a great loss and prejudice, and very mischievous to his Majesty, and of advantage onely to some private persons, who had engross'd and bought up the said Coin; and therefore was advised to recall his Proclamation, and to confine the making passable of the said Coin in Payments to his Majesty to the first of *March* only. And though it was much his Majesties interest so to do, yet he would not do the same till he had advised with this House therein.

Resolved, That the humble Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty by Mr. Secretary *Morrice*, for his Majesties Gracious Message by him communicated to this House; and that he doth acquaint his Majesty, that this House being fully satisfied with the reasons for reducing the time of accepting the late Coin in payment to his Majesty, doth acquiesce in his Majesty's resolution, and do wholly leave it to his Majesty's pleasure to do as he thinks fit in reducing the same.

Thursday 23 Jan. 13 Car. II.

Resolved, That an humble Address be made to his Majesty, to send Instructions from his Majesty and Council to the Justices of the Peace in the several Counties, to inform themselves what Corn is in store, and to take such course as they shall conceive to be most effectual, that Corn be not engrossed and hoarded up, but that it be brought in and exposed

to sale in the publick Markets, at the Measures and Weights allowed by the Standard for supply of the Poor, who are at this time put to great distress and extremities for the want of Corn; and also to see the Law against Retailers and Ingrossers put in execution: And such of the Members of this House as are of his Majesties Privy Council are desired to attend his Majesty with this Message.

Sunday, 25 Jan. 1661.

Mr. Comptroller reports, that his Majesty had been attended with the Message touching Corn, which his Majesty had graciously received the same, and had given directions for a Proclamation and Instructions to issue accordingly.

Tuesday, 18 Feb. 1662.

Mr. Secretary *Morrice* informs the House, that he had directions from his Majesty to desire this House, that they would *Supersede* any further debate upon the Bill, for a permission to such persons as should advance money for supply of his Majesty's present occasions, to take Interest at 10 per Cent. That his Majesty finding, that the Bill might have some ungrateful relish in it, resolved to put himself upon the greatest straits, rather than adventure upon any course that might in the least seem to disgust this House, or prejudice his good Subjects; and therefore would endeavour some other means to supply his present urgent occasions, and desired the Bill might be laid aside.

Resolved. That the humble Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty for his Gracious Message by Mr. Secretary *Morrice*, and that his Majesty be made acquainted, That this House will leave no means unattempted to advance his Majesty's Revenue, and supply his present urgent occasions.

Sunday, 3 April. 1662.

Ordered, That an Address be made to his Majesty from this House to inform him, that upon examination of the matter depending upon the Petition of the poor Captives taken by the Pirates of *Tunnis* and *Algiers*, they find, that there is the sum of 4649l. 7s. 9d. resting in the hands of Mr. *Langley*, Merchant, which of right ought to be applied for the use of the said Captives, and to desire his Majesty to give direction to his Attorney General for the prosecution and recovery of the said Money, and that the same may be paid and employ'd for the use and advantage of the poor Captives, as it was originally intended; and Sir *John Compton* Lord *Bruce*, Mr. *Pryn*, and Mr. *Covenry* are to attend his Majesty, to present unto him this Address of the House.

Thursday, 5 April, 1662.

A Report was made, that his Majesty had been attended with the Address concerning the Money in the hands of Mr. *Langley*, and that his Majesty was pleased to declare that he intended the Money for that use, and held it no less than Sacriledge it should be diverted to any other.

Thursday, 15 May, 1662.

A Message from the King by Mr. Secretary *Morrice*, as followeth.

C. R.

Though his Majesty resolved to begin his Journey towards Portsmouth on Friday next, yet hoping that the Publick Bills may in a short time be ready for his Royal Assent, his Majesty is resolved to defer his Journey till Monday morning, and in the mean time desires both Houses of Parliament to prepare and finish the Publick Bills now before them; and particularly he doth earnestly recommend to them the dispatch of the Bills for the Militia, for the High-ways, Poor, and Printing; and that the Nation may not suffer under the reproach and infamy of the miscarriage in so glorious a Work as the Draining of the Fens, since there is not time for the passing of a Bill that may provide for the several Interests. His Majesty doth earnestly recommend to them the passing such a Temporary Bill for preservation of those Works as hath already passed, and is now expired; and when the Parliament meets again, all particular Rights may be provided for. And his Majesty will be at the House on Monday next to conclude this Session.

Given at our Court at Whitehall the 15th. day of May, in the 14th. year of Our Reign.

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Friday,

Friday, 27 Feb. 1663.

Sir *Henrige Finch* reports from the Committee appointed to collect and bring in the reasons of this House, for their Vote of Advice to the King's Majesty, and to draw upon Address to be presented with the Reasons. That the Committee, pursuant to their Order, had prepared an Address and Reasons, which he read in this place, and afterwards delivered the same in at the Clerks Table, and is as followeth.

May it please your most Excellent Majesty,

WE your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeses of the House of Commons in Parliament assembled, having with all fidelity and obedience considered of the several matters comprised in your Majesty's late Gracious Declaration of the 26. of December last, and your most Gracious Speech at the beginning of this present Session.

Do in the first place for our selves, and in the names of all the Commons of England, render to your most Sacred Majesty the Tribute of our most hearty Thanks, for that infinite Grace and Goodness wherewith your Majesty hath been pleased to publish your Royal Intentions of adhering to your Act of Indemnity and Oblivion, by a constant and religious observance of it. And our hearts are further enlarged in these returns of Thanksgivings, when we consider your Majesty's most Princely and Heroick Professions of relying upon the Affections of your People, and abhorring all sort of Military and Arbitrary Rule. But above all, we can never enough remember, to the Honour of your Majesties Piety, and our own unspeakable Comfort, those solemn and most endearing Invitations of us your Majesty's Subjects, to prepare Laws to be presented to your Majesty against the growth and increase of Popery; and withal to provide more Laws against Licentiousness and Impiety, at the same time declaring your own resolutions for maintaining the Act of Uniformity. And it becomes us always to acknowledge and admire your Majesty's Wisdom in this your Declaration, whereby your Majesty is pleased to resolve, not onely by Sumptuary Laws, but by your own Royal example of Frugality, to restrain that excess in mens Expences, which is grown so general and so exorbitant, and to direct our Endeavours to find out fit and proper Laws for advancement of Trade and Commerce.

After all this, we most humbly beseech your Majesty to believe, that it is with extreme unwillingness and reluctancy of heart, that we are brought to differ from any thing which your Majesty hath thought fit to propose. And though we do no way doubt, but that the unreasonable distempers of mens spirits, and the many Mutinies and Conspiracies which were carried on during the late interval of Parliaments, did reasonably incline your Majesty to ill humours till the Parliament assembled, and the hopes of an Indulgence, if the Parliament should consent to it; especially seeing the pretenders to this Indulgence did seem to make some Title to it by virtue of your Majesty's Declaration from Breda. Nevertheless your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, who are now returned to serve in Parliament from those several parts and places of your Kingdom for which we were chosen, do humbly offer it to your Majesty's great Wisdom, that it is in no sort advisable, that there be any Indulgence to such persons who presume to dissent from the Act of Uniformity and Religion established, for these Reasons.

We have considered the Nature of your Majesty's Declaration from Breda, and are humbly of opinion, that your Majesty ought not to be pressed with it any further.

Because it is not a promise in it self, but onely a gracious Declaration of your Majesty's Intentions to do what in you lay, and what a Parliament should advise your Majesty to do; and no such advise was ever given or thought fit to be offered, nor could it be otherwise understood, because there were Laws of Uniformity then in being, which could not be dispensed with but by Act of Parliament. They who do pretend a right to that supposed Promise, put their right into the hands of their
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Representatives whom they chose to serve for them in this Parliament, who have passed, and your Majesty consented to the Act of Uniformity. If any shall presume to say, that a right to the benefit of this Declaration doth still remain after this Act passed; it tends to dissolve the very Bonds of Government, and to suppose a disability in your Majesty, and your Houses of Parliament, to make a Law contrary to any part of your Majesties Declaration, though both Houses should advise your Majesty to it.

We have also considered the nature of the Indulgence proposed, with difference to those Consequences which must necessarily attend it.

It will establish Schism by a Law, and make the whole Government of the Church precarious, and the Censures of it of no moment or consideration at all.

It will noway become the Gravity or Wisdom of a Parliament, to pass a Law at one Session for Uniformity, and at the next Session the Reason for Uniformity continuing still the same, to pass another Law to frustrate, or weaken the execution of it.

It will expose your Majesty to the restless importunity of every Sect or Opinion, and of every single Person also, that shall presume to dissent from the Church of England.

It will be a cause of increasing Sects and Sectaries, whose numbers will weaken the true Protestant Profession so far, that it will at last become difficult for it to defend itself against them. And which is yet further considerable, those numbers which, by being troublesome to the Government, find they can arrive to an Indulgence, will, as their numbers increase, be yet more troublesome, so at length they may arrive to a general Toleration, which your Majesty hath declared against, and in time, some prevalent Sect will at last contend for an Establishment, which for ought can be foreseen, may end in Popery.

It is a thing altogether without precedent, and will take away all means of convincing Recusants, and be inconsistent with the method and proceedings of the Laws of England.

Lastly, It is humbly conceived, that the Indulgence proposed will be so far from tending to the Peace of the Kingdom, that it is rather likely to occasion great disturbance.

And on the contrary, that the asserting of the Laws and the Religion established, according to the Act of Uniformity, is the most probable means to produce a settled peace and obedience through the Kingdom; because the variety of Professions in Religion, when openly indulged, doth directly distinguish men into Parties, and will give them opportunity to count their Numbers, which, considering the animosities that out of a Religious pride will be kept on foot by the several Factions, doth tend directly and inevitably to open disturbance: Nor can your Majesty have any security, that the Doctrine or Worship of the several Factions, which are all governed by a several Rule, shall be consistent with the peace of your Kingdom.

And if any person shall presume to disturb the peace of the Kingdom, we do in all humility declare, That we will for ever, and upon all occasions be ready, with our utmost endeavours and assistance, to adhere to, and serve your Majesty, according to our bounden duty and allegiance.

Sunday, 28 Feb. 1663.

Mr. Speaker reports, That his Majesty had been attended by the House with their Address and Reasons, &c. And that his Majesty was pleased to return Answer to this effect:

That he gave us hearty thanks for our many thanks: That never any King was so happy in a House of Commons as he is in this: That the Paper and Reasons were long, and therefore he would take time to consider of them, and send us a Message: That he could never differ but in judgment, and that must be when he did not rightly express himself, or we did not rightly understand him; but our Interests were so far linked together, that we could never disagree.

Monday,

Munday, 16 March, 1663.

A Message from his Majesty by Mr. Secretary *Morrice*, as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty is unwilling to enlarge upon the Address lately made to him by his House of Commons, or to reply to the Reasons, though he finds what he had said much misunderstood; but renews his hearty thanks to them for their expressions of so great duty and affection, and for their free Declaration, that if any persons shall presume to disturb the peace of the Kingdom, they will for ever, and in all occasions, be ready with their utmost endeavours and assistance, to adhere to, and serve his Majesty, and doth very heartily desire them so to enable him, and to put the Kingdom into such a posture, as if any disturbance or seditious designs arise, they may be easily suppressed.

Resolved, That the humble thanks of this House be returned to the King's Majesty, for his Gracious Message to this House; and such Members as are of the Privy Council to present the same to his Majesty.

Tuesday, 17 March, 1663.

A Message from his Majesty by Mr. Secretary *Morrice*:

C. R.

Whereas by an Order of the 19 of May last, Our House of Commons did humbly recommend it unto Us to take care for the preservation of the Level of the Fens, called Lindsey Level; and did make it their humble request unto Us, to give Our self the trouble of calling all Parties concerned before Us, and of bearing their several Claims and Interests. We did accordingly cause Summons to be given to all Parties for their appearance at Our Council-Board, where We heard what was alledged by each Party; and conceiving that the matters in difference might brought to some accommodation, We required a Committee of Our Council to endeavour it, by whose report we are given to understand, that through the averness of some persons concerned, nothing hath been effected. Wherefore out of Our desire, that so good and beneficial a Work may not fall to the ground, We have thought fit to return it back into your hands, with our special recommendation, that Our House of Commons take speedy and effectual care to put the said business into such a way, that the aforesaid Level may not be destroyed, so great Charges and Expences cast away, nor the Common-wealth receive such a damage as is likely otherwise to ensue.

Resolved, That his Majesty having most graciously declared his zeal for the prevention of the growth of Popery, be humbly desired to issue out his Proclamation, to command all Jesuits, and all *English, Irish, and Scots* Popish Priests, and all such other Priests as have taken Orders from the See of Rome, or by Authority thereof, except such Foreign Jesuits or Priests, as by Contract of Marriage are to attend the Persons of either of the Queens, or, by the Law of Nations to attend Foreign Ambassadors, to depart this Kingdom by a day.

Resolved, That the Lords Concurrence be desired to this Vote.

Thursday, 2 April, 1663.

A report from a Conference was made of a Message sent from his Majesty to the House of Lords, to be imparted to the House of Commons, which is as followeth:

C. R.

His Majesty having seriously considered and weighed the humble Representation and Petition of his Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, and the great affection and duty with which the same was presented unto him; and after having made some reflections upon himself and his own actions, is not a little troubled, that his Lenity and Condescensions towards many of the Popish persuasion (which were but natural effects of his Generosity and good Nature, after having lived so many years in the Dominions of Roman Catholick Princes, and out of a just memory of what many of them had done and suffered in the Service of his Royal

Royal Father of Blessed Memory, and of some eminent Services performed by others of them towards his Majesty himself in the time of his greatest affliction) have been made so ill use of, and so ill deserv'd, that the resort of Jesuits and Priests into this Kingdom hath been thereby increased, with which his Majesty is, and hath long been highly offended: And therefore his Majesty readily concurs with the advice of His Two Houses of Parliament, and hath given order for the preparing and issuing out such a Proclamation as is desired, with the same Clause referring to the Treaty of Marriage as was in the Proclamation; which, upon the like occasion issued out, upon the advice of both Houses of Parliament in the year 1640. And his Majesty will take further care, that the same shall be effectual, at least to a greater degree, than any Proclamation of this kind hath ever been. And his Majesty further declares, and assures both His Houses of Parliament, and all His loving Subjects of all his Dominions, that as His affection and Zeal for the Protestant Religion and the Church of England hath not been conceal'd or untaken notice of in the World, so He it not, nor will ever be so solicitous for the settling His own Revenue, or providing any other Expedients for the peace and tranquility of the Kingdom, as for the advancement and improvement of the Religion established, and for the using and applying all proper and effectual remedies to hinder the growth of Popery; both which he doth, in truth, look upon as the best expedient, to establish the peace and prosperity of all his Kingdoms.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall this first day of April, 1663, in the 15 year of Our Reign.

Resolved, That the humble Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty for his Gracious Message, and that the Lords Concurrence be desired to this Vote.

Resolved, That his Majesty be desired, that no Grant be passed, or Contract made, of or touching the Post-Office until the Committee shall have inspected the same, and made report thereof to the House, as well for the improvement of the Revenue thereof, as for the better management of that Office; and that all such as shall offer most for the improvement of any Branch of his Majesty's Revenue, they being duely qualific'd, shall be recommended by the House for the farming of such respective Branch.

Tuesday, 12 May, 1663.

Ordered, That Mr. Secretary Bennet, &c. do attend his Majesty with the Vote before-mentioned, as also these Notes following, formerly passed, *viz.*

Resolved, That the King's Majesty be humbly moved from the House, to take care for the encouragement of the vent of Woollen, and other Manufactures of England, into Scotland and Ireland; and that no Impositions be laid or continued in those Kingdoms, that may discourage the vent of them.

Resolved, That the King's Majesty be humbly moved to give leave, that there be a constant free Exportation of Geldings: And that he would be pleased to recall his Proclamation that restrains their Exportation.

That his Majesty be humbly desired, that no Consulship be continued, or hereafter granted in any place, but at the desire of the respective Merchants Trading to that Place, and at such Allowances and Charges onely, as the Merchants shall consent to give them.

Sunday, 16 May, 1663.

A Message from his Majesty, as followeth.

C. R:

His Majesty bearing the Message from His House of Commons of the 12. of May touching the Post Office, commands it be answered, That there is no new Grant or Contract made concerning that Office; what Mr. O Neal hath had, is but the remainder of that time which is yet to come upon Mr. Bishop's Patent, in the execution of which, His Majesty not being satisfied, for the extraordinary number of Non-conformists and disaffected persons in that Office, was inclined to admit of this change; but the Term being expired, his Majesty will have a care to see it raised so that profit it may fairly be; remembring always, that it being an Office of much Trust as well as a Farm, it will not be fit to give it to him that bids

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worst, because a dishonest or disaffected person is likeliest to exceed that way.

His Majesty issued forth his late Proclamation, forbidding the Transportation of Geldings, reflecting (among other reasons) upon the great scarcity of them, occasion'd by the death of very many more these last years than usually; when his Majesty seeth the numbers restored, he shall willingly comply with the desires of his House of Commons, in allowing a free Transportation of them.

His Majesty (knowing of how publick a benefit it is) will be always ready to encourage Manufactures, especially the Woollen ones, and that the Impositions be fairly laid, purposeth to appoint Commissioners of the respective Nations, who may represent to him the reciprocal conveniences of them, upon which his Majesty will make his determination accordingly.

His Majesty finds, that the Nomination of Consuls in the Factories abroad, hath always been in the Crown, and kept there, because in most parts they are Agents to maintain the Priviledges of the Nation, and the Articles of Peace made for the advance of it: That if his Majesty should grant what is desired to the Merchants here, it would manifestly disoblige the rest of the Kingdom equally engaged in the Trade. However, his Majesty so far complieth with the desires of his House of Commons, as to promise, care shall be taken to nominate none, but in such places where they are precisely necessary, and with such Allowances as the Merchants shall think fit in their respective Factories; and also that the said Consuls be men fitly qualified and acceptable to them.

Sunday, 20 June, 1663.

Resolved, That the undue execution of the Commissions, issued for the discovery of the Lands gained from the Sea, is a grievance.

Resolved, That his Majesty be humbly desired to forbear to pass any further Grants upon the Commissions so unduely executed; and such Members of this House as are of his Majesties Privy Council are to acquaint his Majesty with the desires of this House.

Friday, 26 June, 1663.

A Message from the King by Mr. Secretary Morrice, as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty believes, that all Commissions which have been issued since his return for discovery of Lands gained from the Sea, have been well deliberated upon by the Ministers of the Revenue, and that the same are issued out regularly; but if there had been any irregularity or miscarriage in the execution thereof, his Majesty is well content, that all such who have been guilty of the same, should be strictly prosecuted, and severely punished. And as his Majesty doth not believe, that many (if any Grants have been passed by his Majesty upon such Commissions in the consideration whereof, his Majesty hath taken some pains, and heard any persons who have objected against the same, so he will not pass any such Grants, but upon very good deliberation, and assurance from his Council at Law, that such Grants are very Legal.

Resolved, That the humble Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty for his Gracious Message; and that Mr. Secretary Morrice do return the Thanks accordingly.

Friday, 10 July, 1663.

Resolved, That his Majesty be humbly desired to issue forth his Proclamation, for the punctual and effectual execution and observance of the Act of Navigation, without any dispensation or contrivance whatsoever, whereby the Act may be in the least violated, and to recall such Dispensations as are already granted, (if any be) and also to issue his Orders and Instructions to the Officers of the Customs for the strict performance of the said Act: And Sir John Frederick, Sir George Downing, &c. or any three of them, are hereby appointed to attend his Majesty with this Address,

Sunday,

Sunday, 25 July, 1663.

Resolved, That his Majesty be desired to issue out his Proclamation, for putting the Laws in force against Popish Recusants, Sectaries, and Non-conformists in effectual execution; and that this Vote be presented to his Majesty by the Speaker of this House.

Resolved, That it be humbly recommended to the Kings Majesty to give leave, for the accommodation of the Foreign Plantations with such Horses as their occasions shall necessarily require; and Sir William Compton, Mr. Henry Coventry, and Sir William Coventry are desired to attend his Majesty with this recommendation from the House.

Monday, 27 July, 1663.

Sir William Compton reports, That his Majesty having been attended with the recommendations from this House, on the behalf of the Foreign Plantations, That his Majesty was graciously pleased to declare, that he would take care, that the Plantations shall be furnished with such Horses as should be fit for their occasions, upon as easie terms, as if the Clause concerning the Plantations had been inserted in the Act for encouragement of Trade.

Wednesday, 6 April, 1664.

Resolved, That his Majesty be humbly moved to appoint Commissioners of both Kingdoms of England and Scotland to consider of the Impositions that are fit to be laid, or continued, upon the Goods and Merchandizes of both Kingdoms.

Resolved, That his Majesty be humbly moved to appoint some of his Majesties Honourable Privy Council, or others, to consider of Expedients to redress the grievance of Impositions upon the Trade of this Kingdom with Ireland, and so to settle the same between the two Kingdoms, as that the one may not obstruct the other.

Ordered, That Mr. Secretary Bennet do attend his Majesty with these Votes of the House.

Thursday, 21 April, 1664.

Resolved, That the Wrongs, Dishonours, and Indignities done to his Majesty by the Subjects of the United Provinces, by invading of his Right in India, Africa, and elsewhere, and the Damages, Affronts, and Injuries done by them to our Merchants, are the greatest obstruction of our Foreign Trade: And that the same be most humbly and speedily presented to his Majesty, and that he be most humbly moved to take some speedy and effectual course for the redress thereof, and all other of the like nature, and for the prevention of the like in future: And, in prosecution thereof, they will, with their Lives and Fortunes, assist his Majesty against all oppositions whatsoever.

Resolved, That the Lords Concurrence be desired to this Vote at a Conference.

Friday, 29 April, 1664.

Mr. Clifford reports, from a Conference had with the Lords, that their Lordships had received a Message from his Majesty, in Answer to the Vote of both Houses, which was to be communicated to this House, which is as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty having considered the Address made to Him by his Two Houses of Parliament, is very well pleased with the great zeal they have expressed, for the advancement of the Trade of this Kingdom, and removing all obstructions which may hinder the same, being thoroughly convinced, it is that which will contribute most to the Honour and Glory of this Nation, and the Prosperity of His People; His Majesty will examine and peruse the particular Complaints which have been represented to His Parliament, and thereupon, according to their advice, appoint His Minister at the Hague to demand Speedy Justice and Reparation from the States General: As also use his utmost endeavours to secure his Subjects from the like violence for the future. In the prosecution of which, or upon the denial of Justice, he depends on the Promise of Both Houses to stand by Him; and returns them his hearty Thanks for their frank Declaration therein.

Resolved, That the humble and hearty Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty, for his Gracious Condescension to the Vote of both Houses of Parliament; and that the Members of this House of the Privy Council do present the Thanks to his Majesty.

Tuesday, 28 Feb. 1664.

Resolved, That his Majesty be humbly desired to appoint a general Day to be solemnly observed in all Churches within England, Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed, to im-
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pleore the Blessing of God upon his Majesties Fleet and Naval Forces imployed against the Dutch.

To which Vote the Lords Concurrence was desired, and had.

Tuesday, 10 October, 1665.

Resolved, That the humble and hearty thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty, for his care and conduct in the preservation of his People, and the Honour of this Nation; and that this House will assist his Majesty with their Lives and Fortunes against the Dutch, or any others that shall assist them in opposition to his Majesty.

Resolved, That the humble thanks of this House be also returned to his Majesty for the care he hath had of the Person of his Royal Highness the Duke of York.

Tuesday, 31 October, 1665.

Resolved, That his Majesty be humbly desired to give command to the Officers of his Navy, Ordnance, and Stores, to prepare an account of their Disbursements against the next Session of Parliament, and Sir Richard Temple and Mr. Whorwood are to attend his Majesty with this Address.

Monday, 18 October, 1666.

Resolved. That his Majesty be humbly moved to issue out his Proclamation, prohibiting strictly the Importation of all sorts of Manufactures and Commodities whatsoever, to the Growth, Product, or Manufacture of France, and of all other Lands and Places in the possession of the French King, into any Port or Place of this Kingdom, or Town of Berwick upon Tweed.

Resolved, That the Lords Concurrence be desired to this Vote.

Friday, 26 October, 1666.

Mr. Hungerford reports from the Committee appointed to receive Informations, of the insolence of the Popish Priests and Jesuits, and of the increase of Popery, and to consider how the same may be suppressed: That the Committee had agreed upon a Report to be made to the House, as followeth:

Resolved, That in order to the suppressing the insolency of the Papists, his Majesty be humbly desired forthwith to issue out his Royal Proclamation, for the banishment of all Priests and Jesuits out of this Kingdom within thirty days to be therein limited, other than such (not being his Majesties Natural born Subjects) who are obliged to attend upon the Queen Consort, or the Queen Mother: And that if any Priest or Jesuit shall happen to be taken in England after the said days, that the Laws be put in due execution against them.

Resolved, That in the said Proclamation, strict order be given to the Judges, and all Barons of the Exchequer, and to all his Majesties Justices of the Peace, and to all other Ministers of Justice, for the putting the Laws in due execution against all Popish Recusants, and such as are suspected so to be, in order to their speedy conviction. And that the said Judges, Barons, and Justices be required, at their respective Assizes and Quarter-Sessions, to give the Laws in charge against Popish Recusants.

Resolved, That his Majesty be humbly moved, that, considering the present juncture of affairs, all Popish Recusants, and such as being suspected so to be, shall refuse to take the Oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance, being tendered to them, may be forthwith disarmed, as to remove all apprehensions from the People of their possibilities to disturb the publick Peace of the Nation: And that all Officers, Military and Civil, and Soldiers, as shall not within twenty days take the Oathes of Allegiance and Supremacy, may be disbanded and displaced. And that the Lord Chancellor, and Chancellor of the Dutchy respectively, do issue out *Dedimus potestatem* to such persons as the Lord General (not being Officers commanding Soldiers) shall appoint, for the administration of the said Oathes to the Military Officers and Soldiers in his Majesties Pay and Entertainment. And to the Chamberlain, Vice-chamberlain, Treasurer, and Comptroller of his Majesties Household, and Steward of the Marshalsea, or any two of them, for the administration thereof to the Officers of his Majesties Household, and to such other person or persons as the Lord Chancellor, and Chancellor of the Dutchy respectively, shall think meet for doing the like to all other Officers and Persons, in all Counties, and County Palatines, and Priviledg'd places, in the Kingdom of England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed; and also in the Islands of Guernsey and Jersey, so as an account be given thereof by the persons so authorized.

Resolved. That the Commissaries of the Musters be commanded and enjoined, upon penalty of losing their Places, not to permit any Officer or Soldier to be mustered in the Service and Pay of his Majesty, till he or they shall have taken the Oathes of Supremacy and Allegiance, and received the Sacrament of the Lords Supper, according to the Law and usage of the Church of England.

Resolved, That the Lords Concurrence be desired to these Votes.

Resolved

That his Majesty be humbly desired, by such Members of this House as are of the Council, to issue out a new Commission, for tending and administering the Oaths of Alliance and Supremacy to the Members of this House.

Friday, 2 November, 1666.

Lord Fitzharding being one of the number that attended his Majesty with the request of both Houses for prohibiting the Importation of French Commodities, and the suppressing the Insolency of Papists, reports, That his Majesty very cheerfully accepted of the said Votes, and declared he would take a speedy course therein.

Sunday, 15 December, 1666.

Message from the King by Mr. Secretary Marrice, as followeth; viz.

His Majesty is sorry, that the difficulty his House of Commons hath met with hath detained them so long without perfecting his Supply. His Majesty wisheth, that the posture of his affairs would permit the giving his two Houses recess at Christmas; but the season of the year being considered, and how the necessary preparations against the Spring depend upon the dispatch of the same, he assures himself is preparing for him, he cannot think it consistent with the publick safety to permit any Adjournment (except for the chief days) until that and the other most publick Bills be perfected, which he desires may be hastned, and which his Majesty should be glad, if possible, might be done by Christmas, as well for their ease as for his own service.

Given at the Court at Whitehall the 15. day of December, 1666.

Monday, 14 October, 1667.

Report was made of an Address of Thanks to be presented to his Majesty, and is as followeth:

WE your Majesties Loyal and faithful Subject, the Commons in Parliament assembled, having taken into our serious consideration your Majesties former Speech, wherein you were pleased to let us know, that your Majesty thought fit to Prorogue the Parliament till the 10. of this October, that you might give us time to do something that would not be unwelcome, but a foundation for a confidence for the future between your Majesty and your People. We find our selves bound in duty to return your Majesty our humble and hearty thanks, for your Declaration in your Royal Intentions in that your Majesties Gracious Speech, and that delivered by your Majesties command by the Lord Keeper: And particularly that your Majesty hath been pleased to Disband the late raised Forces, to dismiss the Papists from out of your Guards and other Military Employments: For your Majesties care in quickning the execution of the Act for restraining the Importation of Irish Cattle; for causing the Canary Patent to be surrendered and vacated: And more especially, that your Majesty hath been pleased to displace the late Lord Chancellor, and remove him from the exercise of publick Trust and Interest in the Affairs of State. For all which Acts, Grace, and publick Benefits, your said Commons do beseech your Sacred Majesty to accept these our humble and hearty thanks.

Wednesday, 16 October, 1667.

Mr. Speaker reports, That both Houses had yesterday attended his Majesty; and that his Majesty, after the Address was read, was pleased to return answer to the effect following.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Thank you for your Thanks. I am glad the things I have done, have given you so good satisfaction; and for the Earl of Clarendon, I assure you, I will never employ him again in any publick Affairs whatsoever.

Thursday, 24 October, 1667.

The House being informed, that there are some Soldiers, with their Horses and Arms, now in readines to be transported into Forreign parts.

Resolved, That an Address be made to his Majesty to restrain their Transportation, the matter being now under the consideration of the House, for strengthening the Nation against Forreign Invasion.

Friday, 25 October, 1667.

Resolved, That an Address be made to his Majesty, humbly to acquaint his Majesty of the complaints of the great damages and dangers which daily happen by Thefts and Robberies; and that his Majesty would give leave for some Members of this House to advise with the Lord General, and consider for some speedy course to be taken, for appointing Guards, and securing the Countries and High-ways, and for a reward of such as shall be employed therein.

Thursday, 3 Decemb. 1667.

Resolved, That an Address be made to his Majesty, by the Members of this House of his Majesties Privy Council, humbly to desire his Majesty to give order to stop all Sea-ports, to prevent the escape of the Earl of Clarendon.

Friday, 13 December, 1667.

The House of Commons having taken notice of the flight of the Earl of Clarendon, being under an Impeachment of the Commons for High Treason;

Resolved, That his Majesty be humbly desired to issue out a Proclamation, for summoning the said Earl of Clarendon to appear by a day, and the apprehending him in order to his Trial.

Saturday, 14 Decemb. 1667.

Resolved, That his Majesty be humbly moved by the Members of this House of his Majesties Privy Council, that he will be pleased to encourage the wearing of the English Manufactures.

Thursday, 19 Decemb. 1667.

A Message from his Majesty, which is as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty having, by a former Message, acquainted you, that he intended an Adjournment to the beginning of February, he doth conceive, that Thursday the 6. of February is a convenient day, to which such Adjournment may be made. And his Majesty is willing that you may Adjourn to that time.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall, the 19 day of December, in the 19 year of Our Reign. 1667.

Monday, 10 Feb. 1667.

Resolved, That his Majesty be humbly desired to issue his Proclamation to enforce obedience to the Laws in force, concerning Religion and Church-Government as it is now established, according to the Act of Uniformity; and such Members of this House as are of his Majesties Privy Council are to attend his Majesty with this Address.

Saturday, 15 Feb. 1667.

Resolved, That his Majesty be humbly desired forthwith to give order, to restrain the cutting down any more Timber in the new Forrest, and carrying away what is already felled, notwithstanding any Grants now in being.

Wednesday,

Wednesday, 4 March, 1667.

The House taking into consideration the Information of the insolent carriages and abuses committed by persons in several places, in disturbing of Ministers in their Churches, and holding Meetings of their own, contrary to the Laws of this Realm.

Resolved, That this House in a Body do address themselves to his Majesty, to desire him to issue forth his Proclamation for enforcing the Laws against Conventicles; and that there may be care taken for the preservation of the Peace of the Kingdom against unlawful Assemblies of Papists and Non-conformists, and that the latter part of his Majesties Speech be taken into consideration this day fortnight.

Thursday, 5 March, 1667.

The House was informed, that his Majesty had appointed them to attend him this afternoon at 3 of the Clock in Whitehall.

Report was made, that his Majesty had been attended by this House with the Vote, and the same being read to his Majesty, His Majesty was pleased to return Answer to this effect:

Gentlemen,

I Will issue forth my Proclamation according to your desire; and I do not doubt but you will take the second part of my Speech into consideration according to your Vote.

Resolved, That the humble Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty, for his Gracious Answer to the Address of this House.

Friday, 6 March, 1667.

A Message from his Majesty, as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty hath been unwilling hitherto to interrupt you in your proceedings, but considering the posture in which his Neighbours now are, and that the Spring is already so far advanced, and that his Allies (as they have great cause) press his Majesty to hasten his Preparations, he holds it absolutely necessary in respect of the Safety as well as Honour of the Nation, that a Fleet be set out with all speed, and that course be taken for fortifying of his Forts, and building more Ships. And therefore he doth again earnestly recommend it to you forthwith to provide for such a Supply as these occasions require. And because you have not yet had satisfaction (upon the Bill of Accounts) of the former Supplies, his Majesty is very willing that this be collected and issued for these purposes, by such Persons onely as you shall think fit.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall the 6 of March, 1667.

Monday, 30 March, 1668.

Mr. Secretary Morris delivers a Message from his Majesty, That it was his Majesties pleasure and command, that Mr. Speaker with the House do attend his Majesty at 3 of the Clock at the Banqueting-house at Whitehall this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker reports, that according to his Majesties command the House went to Whitehall, where his Majesty exprest himself to this effect.

That the season of the year was far spent, and that it was high time for the setting out of a Fleet; and therefore conjured the House to finish his Supply, and to make haste to dispatch the busineses depending, in order to a recess by Whitfontide.

Monday, 13 April, 1668.

A Message from his Majesty, which is as followeth.

C. R.

C. R.

His Majesty not long since acquainted you, that he hoped you would dispatch your business, so that you might be in your Countreys by Whitson-tides; He thinks fit now to let you know, that he resolves to put a period to this on Monday the 4 day of May next, being the Monday before Whitson-day: And again earnestly minds you to dispatch the business of the Supply, and your other publick Concernments by that time.

Given at the Court at Whitehall the 13 day of April, in the 20 year of his Majesties Reign.

Resolved, That this House doth humbly desire his Majesty, that he will be pleased by his own example, and his Queens, and the Dukes and Dutchesse, and such other wayes in his wisdom shall seem most meet and effectual, forthwith to encourage the wearing of his own English Manufactures, and to discourage the wearing of all Forreign Manufactures, and to discountenance and disgrace all such as shall not conform thereunto, to the good of his Majesty and his People.

Friday, 24 April, 1668.

A Message from his Majesty as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty by his former Message thought fit to acquaint you, that he intended the present Session of Parliament should determine on Monday the 4 of May; but finding that the proceedings in many important businesses now under agitation would be lost, if there should be a Session, and that many things not yet foreseen, may happen to induce him to call you together again before Winter, hath now thought fit to acquaint you, that he intends only an Adjournment for about three months; and desires you therefore to perfect the Bill for Supplies, and such others as may be made ready by the said 4 of May, so that then he may give his Royal Assent to them before the Adjournment.

Given at the Court at Whitehall the 24. of April, 1668.

Wednesday, 3 November, 1669.

Resolved That the humble and hearty thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty, for issuing his Proclamation for putting the Laws in execution against Non-conformists, and for suppressing Conventicles; with the humble desire of this House for his Majesties continuance of the same care for suppressing of them for the future.

Monday, 8 November, 1669.

Mr. Speaker reports, That both Houses had attended his Majesty on Saturday with the Vote of Thanks: That his Majesty spake to both Houses as followeth.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Thank you for this mark of your affection to me, I doubt not of the continuance and concurrence of it in other things, as well as in this of my Proclamation. I recommend to you, that you would weigh well what I say, and desire in it, towards the welfare and peace of the Nation; in order to which, as I shall be always ready to contribute my utmost endeavours, so I hope you will never be failing in yours to enable me to do it.

Resolved, That Sir John Griffith and his Instruments, compelling the Masters of Hoys and other Vessels Trading from Essex and Kent upon the Thames, to pay 18. s. and other Sums, before they might pass by the Fort of Gravesend, (whereof he is Governour) is a Grievance; and that his Majesty be presented with this Vote.

Thursday, 2 Septemb. 1669.

Mr. Secretary Trevor acquaints the House, that his Majesty had commanded him to let

the House know, that he had examined the matter concerning Sir John Griffith and his Instruments, compelling the Masters of Hops and other Vessels Trading upon the River of Thames, to pay certain sums of Money before they pass by the Fort of Gravesend, and finding both by his own confession, and other Evidence, the truth of this fact, his Majesty hath commanded him to let this House know, that he thinks fit not to continue him any longer Governour, and that he will give order to discharge him accordingly.

Resolved, That the humble Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty, for his Gracious Message to this House, in the matter relating to Sir John Griffith.

Tuesday, 8. March, 1669.

The House having received information of a dangerous and unlawful Conventicle, lately met in the West of this Kingdom, and of Treasonable words there spoken, and that his Majesty had, upon information, given order for the prosecution of the offenders.

Resolved, That the Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty, by such Members of this House as are of his Majesties Privy Council, for his care, in giving order to bring the offenders to Justice; and that his Majesty would be pleased to consider the danger of Conventicles in and near London and Westminster, from the nature of those further off; and to give order for the speedy suppressing of them: And that his Majesty would give order to put the Laws against Popish Recusants in execution.

Saturday, 12. March, 1669.

The House was informed, that his Majesty had been attended with the Votes for suppressing Conventicles, and putting the Laws against Popish Recusants in execution; and that his Majesty returned answer, That effectual course should be taken in performing the desires of this House.

Friday, 14. Feb. 1662.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majesties most Loyal and Faithful Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, do in the first place, as in all duty bound, return your Majesty our most humble and hearty thanks for the many gracious promises and assurances which your Majesty hath several times, during this present Parliament, given to us, that your Majesty would secure and maintain unto us the true Reformed Protestant Religion, our Liberties and Properties; which most gracious assurances your Majesty hath, out of your great goodness, been pleased to renew unto us more particularly at the opening of this present Session of Parliament. And further we crave leave humbly to represent, that we have with all duty and expedition taken into our consideration several parts of your Majesties last Speech to us, and withall the Declaration therein mentioned, for Indulgence to Dissenters, dated the 15 of March last; and we find our selves bound in duty to inform your Majesty, that Penal Statutes in matters Ecclesiastical cannot be suspended but by Act of Parliament. We therefore the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeses of the House of Commons do most humbly beseech your Majesty, that the said Laws may have their free course, until it shall be otherwise provided for by Act of Parliament; and that your Majesty would graciously be pleased to give such directions herein, that no apprehensions or jealousies may remain in the hearts of your Majesties good and faithful Subjects.

Monday, 24. Feb. 1672.

A Message from the King by Mr. Secretary Coventry, which is as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty hath received an Address from you, and he hath seriously considered of it, and returneth you this Answer, That he is very much troubled, that that Declaration which he put out for ends so necessary to the quiet of this Kingdom, and especially in that conjuncture, should have proved the cause of disquiet in his House of Commons, and give occasion to the questioning of his Power in Ecclesiasticks, which he finds not done in the Reigns of any of his Ancestors:

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He is sure, he never had thoughts of using it otherwise than as it hath been intrusted in him, to the peace and establishment of the Church of England, and the ease of all his Subjects in general. Neither doth he pretend to the right of suspending any Laws, wherein the Properties, Rights, or Liberties of any of his Subjects are concerned; nor to alter any thing in the established Doctrine or Discipline of the Church of England; but his onely design in this war, to take off the Penalties the Statutes inflict upon Dissenters, and which, he believes, when well considered of, you your selves would not wish executed according to the rigour and letter of the Law. Neither hath he done this with any thought of avoiding or precluding the advice of his Parliament. And if any Bill shall be offered him, which shall appear more proper to attain the aforesaid ends, and secure the Peace of the Church and Kingdom, when tendred in due manner to him, he will shew how readily he will concur in all ways that shall appear good for the Kingdom.

Given at the Court at Whitehall the 24 of Feb. 1672.

Wednesday, 26 Febr. 1672.

Report was made of an Address agreed upon, which is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most humble and loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, do render to your Sacred Majesty our most humble thanks for that, to our unspeakable comfort, your Majesty hath been pleased so often to reiterate unto us those gracious promises and assurances of maintaining the Religion now established, and the Liberties and Properties of your People. And we do not in the least measure doubt, but that your Majesty had the same Gracious Intentions, in giving satisfaction to your Subjects, by your Answer to our last Petition; yet upon a serious consideration thereof, we find, that the said Answer is not sufficient to clear the apprehensions that remain in the minds of your People, by your Majesties having claimed a Power to suspend Penal Statutes in matters Ecclesiastical, and which your Majesty does still seem to assert in the said Answer to be intrusted in the Crown, and never questioned in the Reigns of any of your Ancestors; wherein we conceive your Majesty hath been very much mis-informed, since no such power was ever claimed or exercised by any of your Majesties Predecessors, and if it should be admitted, might tend to the interrupting of the free course of the Laws, and altering the Legislative Power, which hath always been acknowledged to reside in your Majesty and your two Houses of Parliament. We do therefore with an unanimous consent become again humble Suitors unto your Sacred Majesty, that you would be pleased to give us a full and satisfactory Answer to our said Petition and Address, and that your Majesty would take such effectual order, that the proceedings in this matter may not be for the future drawn into consequence or example.

Monday, 2 March, 1672.

An Address was reported, which is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Loyal Subjects, the Commons in this present Parliament assembled, being very sensible of the great dangers and mischiefs that may arise within this Realm by the increase of Popish Recusants amongst us, and considering the great resort of Priests and Jesuits into this Kingdom, who daily endeavour to seduce your Majesties Subjects from their Religion and Allegiance, and how much your Loyal Subjects are disheartened to see such Popish Recusants admitted into Employments of great Trust and Profit, and especially into Military Commands over the Forces now in your Majesties Service. And having a tender regard to the preservation of your Majesties Person, and the Peace and Tranquility of this Kingdom, do in all humility desire, that your Majesty would be pleased to issue out your Royal Proclamation, to command all Priests and Jesuits, other than such as not being natural born Subjects to your Majesty, who are obliged

obliged to attend upon your Royal Consort the Queen, to depart within 30 days out of this your Majesties Kingdom; and that if any Priest or Jesuit shall happen to be taken in England after the expiration of the said time, that the Laws be put in due execution against them: And that your Majesty would please in the said Proclamation to command all Judges, justices of the Peace, Mayors, Bailiffs, and other Officers, to put the said Laws in execution accordingly.

That your Majesty would likewise be pleased, that the Lord Chancellor of England shall on, or before the 25. day of March instant, issue out Commissions of Dedimus Potestatem to the Judge Advocate and Commissaries of the Musters, and such other Persons as he shall think fit, not being Officers commanding Soldiers, to tender the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy to all Officers and Soldiers now in your Majesties Service, and that such as refuse the said Oaths, may be immediately Disbanded, and not allowed or continued in any Pay or Pension. And that the Chancellor shall require due Returns to be made thereof within some convenient time after the issuing out of the said Commissions. That the Commissaries of the Musters be commanded by your Majesties Warrant, upon the penalty of losing their Places, not to permit any Officer to be mustered in the Service of your Majesty, until he shall have taken the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and received the Sacrament of the Lords Supper, according to the Laws and Usage of the Church of England: And that every Soldier serving at Land, shall take the said Oathes before his first Muster, and receive the Sacrament in such manner before his second Muster. And thus we present in all dutifullness to your Majesties Princely Wisdom and Consideration, as the best means for the satisfying the minds of your Loyal Subjects; humbly desiring your Majesty graciously to accept of this our Petition, as proceeding from hearts and affections intirely devoted to your Majesties Service, and to give it your Royal Approbation.

Tuesday, 25. March, 1673.

WE your Majesties most Loyal Subjects, the Commons in this present Parliament assembled, conceiving our selves bound in necessary duty to your Majesty, and in discharge of the Trust reposed in us, truly to inform your Majesty of the estate of this your Kingdom; and though we are abundantly satisfied that it hath always been your Royal Will and Pleasure, that your Subjects should be governed according to the Laws and Customs of this Realm, yet finding that, contrary to your Majesties gracious intentions, some grievances and abuses are crept in, we crave leave humbly to represent them to your Majesties knowledge, and to desire, that the Imposition of 12. d. a Chaldron upon Coals, for the providing of Convoys, by virtue of an Order of Council dated 15 of May, 1672. may be recalled, and all Bonds taken by virtue thereof, cancelled.

That your Majesties Proclamation of the 4. of November, 1672. for prevention of Disorders which may be committed by Soldiers, and whereby the Soldiers now in your Majesties Service are in a manner exempted from the ordinary course of Justice, may likewise be recalled.

And whereas great complaints have been made out of several parts of this Kingdom, of divers abuses committed in quartering of Soldiers, that your Majesty would be pleased to give order to redress those abuses; and in particular, that no Soldiers be hereafter Quartered upon any private Houses; and that due satisfaction may be given to the Inn-keepers and Victuallers where they lie, before they remove.

And since the continuance of Soldiers in this Realm will necessarily produce many inconveniencies to your Majesties Subjects, we do humbly present it as our advice, that when this present War is ended, all the Soldiers which have been raised since the last Session of Parliament may be disbanded.

That your Majesty would likewise be pleased to consider of the irregularities and abuses of pressing Soldiers, and to give order for the prevention thereof for the future.

And

And although it hath been the course of former Parliaments, to desire redress in their grievances before they proceeded to give a Supply; yet we have so full assurance of your Majesties tenderness and compassion towards your People, that we humbly prostrate our selves at your Majesties feet with these our Petitions, desiring your Majesty to take them into your Princely consideration, and to give such order for relief of your Subjects, and for the removing these pressures, as shall seem best to your Royal Wisdom.

Tuesday, 26 March, 1673.

An Address agreed upon was reported, and is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, taking into consideration the great calamities which have formerly befall'n your Majesties Kingdom of Ireland from the Popish Recusants there, who, for the most part are profest enemies to the Protestant Religion, and the English Interest, and how they, making ill use of your Majesties gracious disposition and clemency, are at this time grown more insolent and presumptuous than formerly, to the apparent danger of that Kingdom, and your Majesties Protestant Subjects there; the consequence thereof may likewise prove very fatal to this Kingdom, if not timely prevented; and having seriously weighed what remedies may be most properly applied to those growing distempers, do in all humility present your Majesty with these our Petitions.

That for establishing and quieting the possessions of your Majesties Subjects in that Kingdom, your Majesty would be pleased to maintain the Act of Settlement, and the Explanatory Act thereupon; and to recall the Commission of Enquiry into Irish Affairs, bearing date the 17. of Jan. last, as containing many new and extraordinary Powers, not onely to the prejudice of particular persons, whose Estates and Titles are thereby made liable to be questioned; but, in a manner, to your overthrow of the said Acts of Settlement; and, if pursued, may be the occasion of great Charge and Attendance of many of your Subjects in Ireland, and shake the peace and security of the whole Kingdom.

That your Majesty would give order, that no Papist be either continued or admitted to be a Commander or Soldier in that Kingdom; and that because the Irish Papists have furnished themselves with great quantities of Arms, that your Majesty would please to give direction so to disarm them, that they may not be dangerous to the Government there, and that their Arms be brought into the publick Magazees.

That the like Order may be given, that no Papist be either continued, or hereafter admitted to be Judges, Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, Coroners, Mayors, Sovereigns, or Portriffs in that Kingdom.

That the Titular Popish Archbishops, Bishops, Vicars General, Abbots, and all others exercising Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction by the Popes Authority, (and in particular Peter Talbot, pretended Archbishop of Dublin, for his notorious disloyalty to your Majesty, and disobedience and contempt of your Laws) may be commanded by Proclamation forthwith to depart out of Ireland, and all other your Majesties Dominions, or otherwise to be prosecuted according to Law; and that all Convents, Seminaries, and publick Popish Schools, may be dissolved and suppressed, and the Regular Priests commanded to depart under the like penalty.

That no Irish Papists be admitted to inhabit in any Corporation of that Kingdom, unless duly licensed, according to the aforesaid Acts of Settlement; and that your Majesty would be pleased to recall your Letters of the 26 Feb. 1671. and your Proclamation thereupon, whereby general license is given to such Papists to inhabit in Corporations there.

That your Majesties Letter of 28 Septemb. 1672. and the Order of Council thereupon, whereby your Majesties Subjects are required not to prosecute any Actions against the Irish, for any wrongs or injuries committed during the late Rebellion, may likewise be recalled.

That

That Colouel Richard Talbot, who hath notoriously assumed to himself the Title of Agent of the Roman Catholicks in Ireland, be immediately dismissed out of all Command, either Civil or Military, and forbid an access to your Majesties Court.

That your Majesty would be pleased, from time to time, out of your Princely Wisdom, to give such further order and direction to your Lord Lieutenant, or Chief Governour of Ireland for the time being, as may best conduce to the encouragement of the English Planters and Protestants Interest there, and the suppression of the insulencies and disorders of the Irish Papists.

These our desires we present to your Majesty as the best means to preserve the peace and safety of that your Kingdom, which hath been so much of late endangered by the practices of the said Irish Papists, and particularly of the said Richard and Peter Talbot.

And we doubt not but your Majesty will find the happy effects thereof, to the great satisfaction and security of your Majesties Person and Government, which of all earthly things is most dear to us your Majesties most Loyal and Obedient Subjects.

Wednesday, 27 March, 1673.

Mr. Speaker reports, that his Majesty had been attended with the Address, and returned Answer to this effect:

That he observed the Address did consist of many different parts, and therefore it could not be expected there should be a present Answer; but for the several particular things contained in it, he would before the next Meeting take such effectual care, that no man should have reason to complain.

Ordered, That the humble and hearty thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty.

Report was made of an Address agreed upon to be presented to his Majesty, as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Loyal and Dutiful Subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, do humbly beseech your Majesty, that you will be graciously pleased by your own example, to encourage the constant wearing the Mannfactures of your own Kingdoms and Dominions; and to discourage such Persons, Men or Women, in your Court, as shall wear any Mannfactures made in Foreign Countreys.

Report was made, that his Majesty had been attended with the same Address; and that his Majesty answered to this effect, That he would give all the encouragement possible therein, both in his own Person, and chase elsewhere about him; and for the better asserting thereof, he had given order, that care should be taken for the seising of all prohibited Goods in the Custom-house.

Ordered That the humble Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty for his gracious Answer touching the encouragement of the Mannfactures of these Kingdoms.

Monday, 20 Octob. 1673.

Resolved, That an Address be made to his Majesty, that it is the humble desire of this House, that the intended Marriage of his Royal Highness with the Dutches of Modena be not consummated; and that he may not be married to any Person but of the Protestant Religion.

Thursday, 30 Octob. 1673.

A Message from his Majesty, which is as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty having received an Address from the House of Commons, presenting their humble desire, that the intended Marriage between his Royal Highness and the Dutches of Modena be not consummated, commandeth this Answer to be returned, That he perceiveth the House of Commons have wanted a full information of this matter, the Marriage not being barely intended, but compleated, according to the forms used amongst Princes, and by his Royal Consent and Authority: nor could he in the least suppose it disagreeable to his House of Commons, his Highness having been in the view of the World, for several months, engaged in a Treaty of Marriage with another Catholick Princess, and yet a Parliament held during that time, and not the least exception taken at it.

G

Friday

Friday, 31 Octob. 1673.

Report was made of an Address to be presented to his Majesty, and is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Humble and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in this present Parliament assembled, being full of an assurance of your Majesties gracious intentions to provide for the establishment of Religion, and the preservation of your People in peace and security, and foreseeing the dangerous consequences which may follow the Marriage of his Royal Highness the Duke of York with the Princess of Modena, or any other Person of the Popish Religion, do hold our selves bound in Conscience and Duty to represent the same to your Sacred Majesty, not doubting but that those constant testimonies that we have given your Majesty of our True and Loyal affections to your Sacred Person, will easily gain a belief, that these our humble desires proceed from hearts still full of the same affections towards your Sacred Majesty, and with intentions to establish your Royal Government upon those true supports of the Protestant Religion, and the Hearts of your People; with all humility desiring your Majesty to take the same into your Princely consideration, and to relieve your Subjects from those fears and apprehensions which at present they lie under, from the progress has been made in that Treaty.

We do therefore humbly beseech your Majesty to consider, that if this Marriage do proceed, it will be a means to disquiet the minds of your Protestant Subjects at home, and to fill them with endless jealousies and discontents, and will bring your Majesty into such Alliances abroad, as may prove highly prejudicial, if not destructive to the interest of the very Protestant Religion it self.

That we find by sad experience, that such Marriages have increased and encouraged Popery in this Kingdom, and given opportunity to Priests and Jesuits to propagate their opinions, and seduce great numbers of your Protestant Subjects.

And we do already observe how much that Party are animated with the hopes of this Match, which were lately discouraged by your Majesties gracious Concessions in the last meeting of this Parliament.

That we greatly fear this may be an occasion to lessen the affections of the People to his Royal Highness, who is so nearly related to the Crown, and whose Honour and Esteem we desire may be always entirely preserved.

That for another Age at the least this Kingdom will be under continual apprehensions of the growth of Popery, and the danger of the Protestant Religion.

Lastly, we consider, that this Princess having so near a Relation and Kindred to the many eminent Persons of the Court of Rome, may give them great opportunities to promote their design, and carry on their practises amongst us, and by the same means penetrate into your Majesties most secret Councils, and more easily discover the state of the whole Kingdom.

And finding by the opinions of many Learned Men, it is generally admitted, that such Treaties and Contracts by Proxy are dissolvable, of which there are several instances to be produced; we do in all humbleness beseech your Majesty, to put a stop to the Consummation of this intended Marriage.

And this we do the more importunately desire, because we have not as yet the happiness to see any issue of your Majesty that may succeed in the Government of these Kingdoms, which blessing we most heartily pray God in his due time to bestow upon your Majesty and these Kingdoms, to the unspeakable joy and comfort of all your Loyal Subjects, who desire nothing more than to continue under the Reigns of your Majesty, and your Royal Posterity for ever.

Resolved, That such Members of this House as are of his Majesties Privy Council be desired to attend his Majesty, to know his pleasure when he will be attended with this Address.

Saturday, 1 Novemb. 1673.

Mr. Secretary Coventry acquaints the House, that his Majesty had appointed the House to attend him in the Banqueting-House at Whitehall on Monday next, at 3 of the Clock in the after-noon.

Monday,

Monday, 3 Novemb. 1673.

An Address was reported concerning a General Fast, and is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Loyal and obedient Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, being passionately sensible of the calamitous Condition of this Kingdom, not onely by reason of the War wherein it is at present involved, but many other intestine differences and divisions amongst us, which are chiefly occasioned by the undermining contrivances of Popish Recusants, whose numbers and insolencies are greatly of late increased, and whose restless practises threaten a subversion both of Church and State, all which our sins have justly deserved. And being now assembled in Parliament, as the great Council of this your Kingdom, to consult on such means as we shall think fit to redress the present evils wherewith we are surrounded: We do in the first place humbly beseech your Majesty, that by your special Command, one or more days may be forthwith solemnly set apart, wherein both our selves and this your Kingdom may, by Fasting and Prayer, seek a reconciliation at the hands of Almighty God, and with humble and penitent hearts beseech him to heal our breaches, to remove the evils we lie under, and to avert those miseries wherewith we are threatned, and continue the mercies we yet enjoy; and that he will be graciously pleased to bestow his abundant blessing upon your Majesty and this present Parliament, that all our Counsels and Consultations may tend to his Glory, and the Honour, Safety, and Prosperity of your Majesty, and all your People.

Monday, 12 Jan. 1663.

Resolved, That the humble and hearty thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty for those Acts he has done since the last Prorogation, towards the suppressing and discourtenancing of Popery, and for his Gracious Promises and Assurances in his last Speech.

Ordered, That the Members of this House who are of his Majesties Privy Council, do know his Majesties pleasure when he will be attended therewith.

Resolved, That an Address be made to his Majesty, to desire his Majesty to give order for the Militia of London, Westminster, and Middlesex, to be ready at an hours warning, and the other Militia of the Kingdom at a days warning, for the suppressing any tumultuous Meetings of Papists, or other male-content persons whatsoever. And that the House will present this Address together with the former to his Majesty.

Tuesday, 13 Jan. 1673.

Mr. Secretary Coventry reports, That his Majesty had appointed the House to attend him at 3 of the Clock in the afternoon, in the Banqueting-house at Whitehall, with their Address.

Resolved, nemine contradicente, That an Address be presented to his Majesty, to remove the Duke of Lauderdale from all his Employments, and from his Presence and Councils for ever, being a Person obnoxious and dangerous to the Government.

Mr. Speaker reports, That the House had attended his Majesty with the Address, and that his Majesty returned this Answer,

That he was always ready to preserve them in their Liberties and Properties, and to secure the Protestant Religion; and would take care the Militia should be in a readiness upon all occasions to secure the Government.

Wednesday, 14 Jan. 1673.

Resolved, That an humble Address be made to his Majesty, to remove the Duke of Buckingham from all his Employments that he held during his Majesties pleasure, and from his Majesties Councils and Presence for ever.

Tuesday, 27 Jan. 1673.

Resolved, That upon consideration of his Majesties Gracious Speech, and the Proposals from the States General of the United Provinces, this House is of opinion, that his Majesty be humbly desired to proceed in a Treaty with the said States, in order to a speedy Peace.

Thursday, 29 Jan. 1673.

Resolved, That the humble Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty, for his last Gracious Speech.

A Message from the Lords, with a Vote to be presented to his Majesty, and is as followeth.

The

The Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament assembled, upon consideration of his Majesties Speech, and the whole matter now before them, are of opinion, that his Majesty be humbly advised to proceed in a Treaty with the States General of the United Provinces in order to a speedy Peace.

Saturday, 31 Jan. 1673.

Resolved, That his Majesty be attended with the Vote of this House which relates to the Duke of *Lauderdale*; and that such Members of this House as are of his Majesties Privy Council, do know his Majesties pleasure when he will be attended therewith.

Tuesday, 3 Feb. 1673.

Mr. Secretary *Coventry* acquaints the House, that his Majesty had appointed *Thursday* next, at 3 of the clock in the afternoon, to be attended with the Vote concerning the Duke of *Lauderdale*, in the Banqueting-house at *Whitehall*.

Thursday, 5 Feb. 1673.

Resolved, That the House do attend his Majesty with the Vote of Address which relates to the Duke of *Buckingham*; and that such Members of this House which are of his Majesties Privy Council be desired to know his pleasure when he will be attended therewith.

Friday, 6 Feb. 1673.

Mr. Secretary *Coventry* acquaints the House, that his Majesty had appointed the House to attend him with the Vote about the Duke of *Buckingham* at 3 of the clock this afternoon in *Whitehall*.

Mr. Speaker reports, that the House had attended his Majesty with the Vote concerning the Duke of *Lauderdale*; and that his Majesty returned Answer, That he would consider of it, and return a speedy Answer. That as to the Vote of advice, in which both Houses did concur, the Lord Keeper did read the Vote, and his Majesty did return Answer to this effect.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THe best way of expressing my Thanks for your good advice, is by following of it, which I intend to do very speedily; and if any difficulty shall chance to arise, I do not doubt but you will stand by me in it, to enable me to get through with it.

Sunday, 7 Feb. 1673.

Resolved, That the continuing of any standing Forces in this Nation, other than the Militia, is a great grievance and vexation to the People; and that it is the humble Petition of this House to his Majesty, that he will immediately cause to be disbanded that part of them that were raised since the first of *January, 1663*.

Ordered, That the Members of this House of his Majesties Privy Council do attend his Majesty, to know his Pleasure when this House may attend his Majesty with this Vote.

Mr. Speaker reports, That he had attended his Majesty with the Vote relating to the Duke of *Buckingham*, and that his Majesty had returned this Answer, *That he would take it into consideration.*

Monday, 9 Feb. 1673.

Mr. Secretary *Coventry* acquaints the House, that his Majesty had appointed to morrow at 3 of the clock in the afternoon for the House to attend him with the Addresses touching the Forces.

Wednesday, 11 Feb. 1673.

Mr. Speaker reports the effect of his Majesties Speech, as followeth.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Have perused your advice, and am come hither to tell you, According to your advice and desire, I have made a Speedy, Honourable, and, I hope, a Lasting Peace, which is Signed already.

Mr. Speaker, and you Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I told you yesterday in the Banqueting-house, that I would give you a speedy Answer to your Address about Disbanding the Forces therein mentioned; and I do assure you, that before you had made that Address, I had given order for doing of it, as soon as I should be sure of the Peace, and I shall reduce them to a less number than they were in the year 1663.

As for those Forces that came out of Ireland, I shall give directions for their march hence thither. But as our Forts are lessened at Land, it will be necessary to build more great Ships, seeing we shall not be safe, unless we equal the Strength of our Neighbours at Sea. Therefore I shall recommend it to your care to give me means for the effectual doing thereof. And this is all I have to say at this time.

Resolved, That the humble and hearty Thanks of this House be presented to his Majesty for making a speedy peace, and for his Gracious Answer to the Address of this House concerning the Forces.

Tuesday, 13 April, 1671.

Resolved, That the humble and hearty Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty for his Gracious Promises and Assurances expressed in his Speech, to preserve and maintain in the established Religion and Properties according to Law, and for his calling us together at this time for that purpose.

Thursday, 25 April, 1671.

Mr. Speaker reports, that the House had attended his Majesty with the Vote of Thanks; and that his Majesty was pleased to return Answer, That he had a great confidence in his House of Commons, and they might be confident he would always preserve them in their established Religion, Liberties, and Properties.

An Address concerning the Duke of Lauderdale was reported, and is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in this Parliament assembled, do with humble Thankfulness acknowledge your Majesties care for the safety of the People, in calling us at this time to consult of the best means for the preservation of our Religion and Properties; and though we have great cause to rest assured of the continuance of your Majesties Gracious disposition towards us, yet we find, upon a serious examination of the state of this Kingdom, that there is a great jealousy arisen from some late proceedings in the hearts of your Subjects, that some Persons in great employment under your Majesty, have conceived designs contrary to the interest of your Majesty and People, intending to deprive us of our ancient Rights and Liberties, thereby they might the more easily introduce the Popish Religion, and an Arbitrary form of Government, to the ruin and destruction of the whole Kingdom.

Amongst those who are at present employed under your Majesty, we have just reason to accuse for a promoter of such designs the Duke of Lauderdale, because we have had it testified in our House, by several of our own Members, that in the hearing before the Council in the case of Mr. Penitance Whaley, who had convicted Mr. John James contrary to your Majesties Declaration of 13 March, 1671, the said Duke of Lauderdale did publicly affirm, in the presence of your Majesty sitting in Council, and before divers of your Majesties Subjects then attending, that your Majesties Edicts ought to be obeyed, for your Majesties Edicts are equal with Laws, and ought to be observed in the first place, thereby justifying the said Declaration, and the proceedings thereupon, and declaring his inclination to Arbitrary Councils, in terror of your Majesties good Subjects. And we are further confirmed in this opinion by two late Acts of Parliament, of a very strange and dangerous nature, which we observe amongst the Printed Statutes of Scotland, the first whereof was in the third Session of the first Parliament held here under your Majesty, cap. 25. and the other in your Majesties second Parliament, cap. 2. the like never passed since the Union of the two Crowns, and are contrary to the intention of an Act passed here in the fourth year of the Reign of King James for the better abolition of all memory of hostility, and the dependencies thereof, between England and Scotland, and for the suppressing of occasions of discord and disorders in time to come; and of a like Act passed about the same time in Scotland, by force of which said late Acts there is a Militia settled within Kingdom of about 6000 Foot and 2000 Horse, who are obliged to be always ready to march into any part of this Kingdom, for any service, wherein your Majesties Honour or Gracious may be concerned,

concerned, and are to obey such Orders and directions as they shall receive from the Privy Council there from time to time; by colour of which general words, we conceive this Kingdom may be liable to be invaded under any pretence whatsoever, and this has been done, as we conceive, principally by the procurement of the said Duke of Lauderdale, he having all the time of these transactions been Principal Secretary of that Kingdom, and chiefly intrusted with the Administration of Affairs of State there, and himself Commissioner for holding the Parliament at the time of passing the latter of the said Acts, whereby the Providing of the said Horse and Foot is effectually imposed upon the said Kingdom, and this extraordinary Power vested in the Privy Council there. And we conceive we have just reason to apprehend the ill consequences of so great and unusual a Power, especially while the affairs of that Kingdom are managed by the said Duke, who hath manifested himself a person of such pernicious principles. We do therefore in all humility implore your Sacred Majesty, considering how universal a fame and clamour of the said misdemeanors runneth throughout all your Realm, that for the ease of the hearts of your People, who are possessed with extreme grief and sorrow, to see your Majesty thus abused, and the Kingdom endangered. That your Majesty would graciously be pleased to remove the said Duke of Lauderdale from all his Employments, and from your Majesties Presence and Councils for ever, as being a person obnoxious and dangerous to the Government.

Saturday, 24 April, 1675.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to his Majesty to prevent any further Anticipation or Charge upon his Majesties Customs of England and Ireland, it being a duty service to the King and Kingdom.

Monday, 27 May, 1675.

Mr. Speaker acquaints the House, that his Majesty had been attended with the Address against the Anticipation of the Customs, and that his Majesty returned Answer, he would consider of it.

Friday, 7 May, 1675.

A Message from his Majesty, which is as followeth.

His Majesty hath considered of the Address against the Duke of Lauderdale, and the reasons accompanying it, as to the Acts of Parliament mentioned to have been passed in Scotland. His Majesty observes, that the first of those Acts was in the year 1662, which was long before the Duke of Lauderdale was his Majesties Commissioner in that Kingdom, the latter was the continuance of the former. As to the words, by the title of Mr. Whaley Esq, his Majesty perceives, that if they had been spoken, they would have been spoken before the last Act of General Pardon, and his Majesty being sensible how great a satisfaction and security the revocable preferation of the former Acts of Indemnity and Oblivion had been to all his Subjects, cannot but apprehend the dangerous consequences of inquiring into any thing thus has been pardoned by an Act of General Pardon, lest the example of that might give men cause to fear their security under the first Acts of Oblivion.

Given at the Court at Whitehall, the 7 of May, 1675.

A Message from his Majesty, which is as followeth.

His Majesty having received an address from the House of Commons, concerning the recalling such of his Subjects as are Soldiers in the French Kings Service, hath thought fit to return this Answer, That such Troops of his Subjects as were in the most Christian Kings Service before the last Treaty made with the States General of the United Provinces, and were not obliged to be recalled, as they are at present become inseparable in their numbers, from his Majesty's service, they cannot be recalled without derogation to his Honour and Dignity, and prejudice to the peace and enjoyment, and publicly professed to maintain with all his Neigh-

bours;

but as to the prohibiting the going over of any more, his Majesty will re-
new his Proclamation, and use all other effectual means, both to forbid and hinder
it. Given at Our Court at White-hall the 3. day of May, 1675.

Thursday, 20 May, 1675.

An Address to be presented to his Majesty was reported, and is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Humble and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assem-
bled, do with all duty and thankfulness acknowledge your Majesties Gracious Promise, in
Answer to part of our former Address, to use all effectual means to forbid and hinder the going
over of any more of your Majesties Subjects into the Service of the French King. And we hum-
bly leave further to represent to your Majesty, that since the Peace made with the United
Netherlands, notwithstanding the Declaration of your Royal Pleasure, and all endeavours used
to the contrary, great and considerable numbers of your Subjects, as well heretofore, as since
under application have, and daily do transport themselves out of several parts of your Ma-
jesty's Kingdoms, for the service of that King, as Recruits to the Troops and Regiments re-
maining there at the conclusion of the said Peace, receiving encouragement so to do (as we have
reason to apprehend) by the continuance of a Standing Body of your Majesties Subjects in that
Service, whereby your Majesties Honour and Authority has been disregarded, great repu-
tation given, and success obtained by his assistance in behalf of the said King, and (if longer
permitted) may render the disavowance and disengagement of these many Protestants, and
other Considerables now engaged in the common defence against him, and to the hazard of Flan-
ders, which we humbly conceive to be contrary to the true and undoubted Interest of your Ma-
jesty and these your Kingdoms, and like to prove of fatal consequence. And therefore we do again
present to address our selves to your Majesty, and humbly pray, that your Majesty would be plea-
sed to recall your Subjects that are in the Service of the French King.

Saturday, 8 June, 1675.

Resolved, That the humble and hearty Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty
for his Gracious Expressions in his Speech this day made to both the Houses of Parliament.

Wednesday, 10 November, 1675.

Report was made of an Address, agreed upon by the Lords, to be presented to his Ma-
jesty, and is as followeth.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majesties most dutiful Subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons
in Parliament assembled, taking notice, that, in great satisfaction of your Majesties Royal
Proclamation, bearing date the 19 of May, 1675, intitled, A Proclamation, commanding
the immediate return of all his Majesties Subjects, who have gone into the Service of the
French King as Soldiers, since the late Treaty of Peace with the States General of the
United Provinces, and prohibiting all your Majesties Subjects to enter into the said Service for
the time to come, and finding there hath not been that observance paid to it which your Ma-
jesty might have expected, and as your Loyal Subjects could have wished, do that of our earnest
desire, that your Royal Injunctions, so agreeable to the Interest and Welfare of your People,
should no longer be disappointed, humbly make this our Petition and Address unto your Ma-
jesty, that you would be graciously pleased to renew your former Proclamation, strengthening it
with such additional Severities upon those who shall not obey it, as shall be agreeable to Law.

Friday, 12 November, 1675.

Ordered, That the Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty, for his great care for
promoting the Protestant Religion, in preferring Dr. Broux, a Convert from the Catholick
Church, and for his Grace and favour towards him.

Saturday, 10 March, 1676.

An Address agreed upon was reported, and is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Loyal Subjects, the Knights, Citizens and Burgesses in Parliament
assembled, find our selves oblig'd in duty and faithfulness to your Majesty, And in discharge
of the Trust reposed in us by those whom we represent, most humbly to offer to your Majesties
serious consideration, that the minds of your Majesty's People are much disquieted with the ma-
nifest danger arising to your Majesties Kingdoms, by the growth and power of the French King,
especially by the acquisitions already made, and the further progress likely to be made by him in
the Spanish Netherlands, in the preservation and security whereof, we humbly conceive the In-
terest of your Majesty and the safety of your People are highly concerned: And therefore we most
humbly beseech your Majesty to call to mind your former Proclamations, and to strengthen your self
with other Alliances, as may secure your Majesties Kingdoms, and preserve and secure the said
Netherlands, and thereby quiet the minds of your Majesties People.

Sunday,

Saturday, 27 March, 1676.

Mr. Speaker reports, that his Majesty had been attended with the Address, and that he returned Answer to this effect.

I am of the opinion of the Two Houses of Parliament, that the conservation of Flanders is of great importance to England; and therefore I do assure you, I will use all means for the preservation of it, that can consist with the peace and safety of the Kingdom.

Thursday, 29 March, 1677.

An Address reported, and is as followeth.

May it please your Majesty,

VVE your Majesties most Loyal and dutiful Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, do, with unspeakable joy and comfort, present our humble Thanks to your Majesty for your Majesties gracious acceptance of our late Address; and that your Majesty was pleased in your Princely Wisdom to express your concurrence in opinion with your Two Houses, in concurrence to the preservation of the Spanish Netherlands; and we do with most earnest and repeated desires implore your Majesty, that you would be pleased to take a timely care to prevent those dangers that may arise to those Kingdoms by the great power of the French King, and the daily progress he makes in those Netherlands and other Places; and therefore that your Majesty would not defer the entering into such alliances as may attain those ends. And in case that it shall happen, that in pursuance of such Alliances your Majesty shall be engaged in War with the French King, we hold our selves obliged, and do with all humility and cheerfulness assure your Majesty, that your most Loyal Subjects shall always be ready, upon the summons thereof in Parliament, fully, and from time to time, to assist your Majesty with such Aids and Supplies, as by the Divine assistance may enable your Majesty to prosecute the same with success. All which we do most humbly offer to your Majesty, as the unanimous sense and desire of the whole Nation.

Wednesday, 21 April, 1677.

A Message from the King, as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty having considered your last Address, and finding some alteration in the Affairs abroad, thinks it necessary to repeat you in mind, that the only way to prevent the danger which may arise to those Kingdoms, must be, by putting his Majesty in a timely condition to make such fitting Preparations, as may enable him to do what shall be for the security of the same; and if for this reason you shall desire to sit any longer, the King is willing you Adjourn till Easter, and may again assemble to ripen this matter, and to perfect some of the most necessary Bills depending. Given at the Court at Whitehall the 21 of April, 1677.

Friday, 13 April, 1677.

A report was made of an Address to be presented to his Majesty, and is as followeth.

VVE your Majesties most dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, do, with great satisfaction of mind, deserve the regard your Majesty is pleased to express to our former Address, by intimating to us the alteration of Affairs abroad; and we do return our humble Thanks for your Majesties Gracious Offer made us in thereupon. We having taken a serious deliberation thereupon, and the Preparations your Majesty hath intended to us were fitting to be made in order to those ends, we have for the present provided Security to a Bill, for an Additional Duty of Excise, upon which your Majesty may raise the Sum of 200000. l. And if your Majesty shall think fit to call us together again for this purpose in some short time after Easter, by any frustration of your Majesties pleasure, commanding our attendance, we shall be our next Meeting no less ready to reimburse your Majesty what sum of Money shall be expended upon such extraordinary Preparations as shall be made in pursuance of our former Address, but shall likewise with most cheerful hearts, then, and at all other times, furnish your Majesty with such proportions of Assurances and Supplies upon this occasion, as may give your Majesty and the whole World our ample Testimony of our Loyalty and Affection to your Majesties Service; and may enable your Majesty, by the help of Almighty God, to maintain such timely Alliances as you shall have entered into against all opposers whatsoever.

Monday, 26 April, 1677.

A Message from his Majesty, as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty having considered the Answer of this House to his last Message, about enabling him to make fitting Preparations for the security of the Kingdom, finds, that they have only enabled him to borrow 200000. l. upon a Fund

open for other uses. His Majesty desires the House should know, that not onely that
 said, but any other within his power, shall be engaged to the utmost for the pre-
 servation of his Kingdoms. But, as his Majesties condition is, which he doubts not,
 but is as well known to this House as to himself. He must tell them, that without a
 Sum of 600000. l. or credit for such a Sum upon new Bonds, it will not be possible
 for him to speak or att those things, which should answer the ends of their several
 Addresses, without exposing the Kingdom to much greater danger. His Majesty doth
 further acquaint them, that having done his part, and laid the true state of things
 before them, he will not be wanting to use the best means for the safety of his People
 which his condition is capable of. Given at the Court at Whitehall the 26 of
 April, 1677.

An Address reported to be presented to his Majesty, and is as followeth.

May it please your Majesty,

VE your Majesties most Loyal and Dutiful Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assem-
 bled, having considered your Majesties last Message, and the gracious expressions there-
 contained, for imploying your whole Revenue, at any time, to raise Money, for the preserva-
 tion of your Majesties Kingdoms, do find great cause to return our humble Thanks for the same;
 and do desire your Majesty to rest assured, that you shall find as much duty and affection in us,
 as can be expressed by a most Loyal People to a most Gracious Sovereign. And whereas he is pleased
 to signify to us, that the Sum of 200000. l. is not sufficient; without further Supplies, to en-
 able your Majesty to speak and att those things which are desired by your People, we humbly
 leave to acquaint your Majesty, that many of our Members being (upon an expectation of
 your Majesty's return) gone into their Countreys, we cannot think it Parliamentary in their absence to
 vote upon the granting of any Money, but do desire your Majesty to be pleased, that this House
 may adjourn it self for some short time, before the Sum of 200000. l. can be expended, as your
 Majesty shall think fit, and by your Royal Proclamation command the attendance of all our
 Members at the day of Meeting; by which time, we hope, your Majesty will have so formed
 your Affairs, and fixed your Alliance, in pursuance of our former Addresses; that your Majesty
 will be graciously pleased to impart them to us in Parliament. And we no ways doubt, but at
 your next meeting, your Majesty will not onely meet with a Compliance in the supply of your Ma-
 jesties desires, but with all such assistances as the posture of your Affairs shall require; in con-
 sideration whereof; we hope your Majesty will be encouraged in the mean time to speak and att such
 things as your Majesty shall judge necessary for attaining those ends we have represented to your
 Majesty.

Wednesday, 23 May, 1677.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, that he would be pleased
 to enter into a League Offensive and Defensive with the States General of the United
 Provinces, and to make such other Alliances with such other Confederates, as his Ma-
 jesty shall think fit, against the growth and power of the French King, and preservation of
 the Netherlands.

Monday, 16 July, 1677.

Mr. Secretary Coventry acquaints the House; it was his Majesties pleasure this House
 should adjourn till the 3 of December next.

Monday, 3 Decemb. 1677.

A Message from the King as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty having given notice by his Proclamation, that he intended the House should be
 adjourned till April, hath now, for weighty reasons, thought fit to meet with both his
 Houses sooner; and his pleasure is, that this House be Adjourned till the 15. of January
 next.

Tuesday, 15 Jan. 1677.

A Message from the King, as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty hath matters of great importance to communicate to both Houses, in order to
 the satisfaction of their Addresses, for the preservation of Flanders; but it hapning, that
 things are not yet so ripe as within a few days they will be, his Majesties pleasure is, that this
 House do immediately Adjourn till the 28. of this instant.

Thursday, 31 Jan. 1677.

Report was made of an Address agreed upon to be presented to his Majesty, and is as
 followeth.

WE your Majesties, most Humble and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in this present Parliament assembled, do in all duty and gratitude render our most humble Thanks to your most Sacred Majesty, for the great care your Majesty hath exprest for the preservation and encouragement of the Protestant Religion, by concluding a Marriage between the Lady Mary, your Majesties Niece, and the Prince of Orange, being a Prince professing the same Religion with us, and engaged in Arms for the defence of the common cause of Christendom, for the promoting of which, we do in all humility, and with the highest zeal to your Majesties Honour, and the safety of your People, beseech your Majesty, not to admit of any Treaty of Peace, whereby the French King shall be left in the possession of any larger Dominions and Territories, or of any greater Power than what he retained by the Pyrenæan Treaty, less than which we conceive cannot secure your Majesties Kingdoms, and the rest of Europe, from the growth and power of the said King, but that he alone may be able to disturb the peace thereof whensoever he is minded to attempt it. The Places reserved by that Treaty to the King of Spain in the Netherlands being advantageous, as well by the vicinity of some important Towns and Garrisons to the Kingdom of France, as by the extent of the Territory. And we do most humbly desire, That in all Treaties, Articles, and Confederations, in order to the obtaining that end, your Majesty would be pleased to provide, that none of the Parties that shall joyn with your Majesty in making War for that purpose, may lay down their Arms, or depart from their Alliances, until the said King be reduced at least to the said Treaty. And we do further desire, as one of the most effectual means to obtain those ends, that it may be agreed between your Majesty and the Confederates, that neither our selves, nor any of them, shall hold any Commerce or Trade with the French King or his Subjects during such War; and that no Commodity of the Growth, Product, or Manufacture of France, or of any of the Territories or Dominions of the French King be admitted to be brought into your Majesties, or any of their Countreys and Dominions, either by Land or Sea, or to be sold within the same, but that they be seized and destroyed wheresoever they be found, and days to be limited for the same in as short time as the nature of such Affairs will permit. And that in all Treaties, Articles, and Confederations made in order to or for the prosecution of such War, it may be agreed and declared, That no Vessel of any Nation whatsoever shall be permitted to enter into, or come out of the Ports of France, but that the Ship and Men shall be seized, and the Goods destroyed.

We do therefore most humbly desire your Majesty to proceed in making such Alliances and Confederations, as shall be necessary for the attaining of those ends. And though we believe your Majesty can never doubt of the affections of your People, yet upon this occasion we do with all alacrity, and with one unanimous consent, renew our former promises and engagements, beseeching your Majesty to rest confidently assured of our perseverance in the prosecution of the said War. And that when your Majesty shall please to impart such Alliances and Confederations to us in Parliament, we shall upon all occasions give your Majesty such ready Assurances and Supports, as may, by the blessing of God, bring the said War to a happy conclusion.

Monday, 4 Feb. 1677.

A Message from his Majesty, which is as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty hath received and perused the late Address of this House, and thereunto returneth this Answer: He is not a little surprized to find so much inserted there of what there should not be, and so little of what should.

In the first place, his Majesties Speech was to both Houses jointly, and the matter being of so publick a concern, it is certainly very convenient, the return to that Speech should be made jointly; for to receive several Addresses, and possibly very different, cannot but administer matter of distraction to his Councils, and consequently to the Affairs of the Nation; nor is the House of Peers reasonably to be left out in transacting those things, which at last must needs pass by them.

In the next place he observes in the Address of this House of the 20 of May last, you invite his Majesty to a League Offensive and Defensive with Holland, against the growth and power of the French King, and for preservation of the Spanish Netherlands, and upon his Declaration of such Alliances, you assure his Majesty of such speedy Assurances and Supplies, as may fully and plentifully answer the occasions. His Majesty hath made accordingly the Alliances Offensive and Defensive with Holland, and declared it to you in Parliament, so his part is performed; but as to that of this House for Supplies, though he asked it in his Speech, you give no Answer,

Answer, nor the least hint of affording him any thing to support the Treaties he hath made; onely the old promises are put to new conditions, and so he may be used to eternity, should he seem satisfied with such proceedings.

You are not to think, that either his Majesty or the States General being to Imbarque in so great a design, would deprive themselves of the other so considerable Alliances; some Ministers of the most concerned Princes have known and approved his Treaty with the States General, and that he hath not formally concluded one with them. The reason is, that the distance of the Places the Princes concerned reside in, would not give time to perfect so many Treaties, to be ratified in Places so remote; and laying well the foundation in Holland, there could not be much doubt of their Consent, for whose Interest that Treaty is made; but nothing can delay, or indeed disappoint those Treaties, more than the failing of this House to support these his Majesty hath made; he must acquit his Credit there, and so his Word shall be maintained, before he can engage it elsewhere afresh.

In his Majesties Answer to the Address of this House of the 20 of May, he told you, how highly he was offended at that great invasion of his Prerogative, but you take no notice of it, but, on the contrary, add to your former ill conduct new invasions, equally offensive to his Majesties Authority, as contrary to his (and, he thinks, most other mens) Judgments.

This House desires his Majesty to oblige his Confederates never to consent to a Peace, but upon condition the most Christian King be reduced to the Pyrenæan Treaty at least; a determination fitting onely for God Almighty, for none can tell what can be fitting Conditions for a Peace, but he that can certainly foretel the Events of the War?

You advise his Majesty to enjoyn not onely his Allies, but all the World, not to let a Ship of theirs to go to, or to come from France, upon pain of loss of Goods, capture of Ships and Men, not excepting either Allie, Prince, or Ambassador, if amongst them. He doth not believe, that ever any Assembly of Men gave so great and publick a provocation to the whole World, without either having provided, or so much as considered how to provide one. Ship, or one peny towards justifying it, (at least as far as you have acquainted him.) However, to shew you how willing his Majesty is to give all reasonable satisfaction to this House, how unreasonable soever the propositions made to him are, doth again repeat to you what he said on the 28. past, That if by your assistance he may be put into Arms sufficient for such a Work, his Majesty will not be weary of them, till Christendom be restored to such a Peace, as it shall not be in the power of any Prince alone to disturb.

This is, in the consequence of it, as much as a Prince, that valueth his Word, can say to you, and he is such a one; but to say he will make no other Peace than such a particular Peace, whether able or not able, whether abandoned by his Allies or not, is not to be said upon solemn Engagement, because not certainly to be perform'd.

In sum, Gentlemen, the right of making and managing War and Peace is in his Majesty; and if you think he will depart from any part of that Right, you are mistaken; the Reins of Government are in his hands, and he hath the same resolution and concern to preserve them there, as he hath to preserve his own Person, and he keeps both for his Peoples protection and safety, and will employ them so as far as he can.

If this House encourage his Majesty to go further in Alliances, by supplying him in maintaining those he hath made, his care and utmost endeavours will be employed for you. If this House doth intend this, it must be speedy, the time and conjuncture affords not leisure to consult long. And therefore his Majesty desireth, that without farther loss of time, you apply your selves to the consideration of that Supply, for from thence he must take his Measures.

Friday,

Friday, 15 March, 1677.

An Address agreed upon to be presented to his Majesty was reported; which is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Humble and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in this present Parliament assembled, do, in all duty and faithfulness to your Majesties Service, humbly present your Majesty with this our advice, That for the satisfying the minds of your good Subjects, who are much disquieted with the apprehensions of the dangers arising to this Kingdom from the growth and power of the French King; and for the encouragement of the Princes and States Confederated against him, your Majesty would be graciously pleased immediately to Declare, Proclaim, and enter into an actual War against the said French King; for the prosecution whereof, as we have already passed a Bill of Supply, which only wants your Royal Assent, so we desire your Majesty to rest constantly assured, that we will from time to time proceed to stand by, and aid your Majesty with such plentiful Supplies and Assistances as your Majesties occasions, for so Royal an undertaking, shall require. And because your Majesty endeavours, by way of Mediation, have not produced those good effects your Majesty intended, we do most humbly beseech your Majesty, that you would graciously be pleased to recall your Ambassadors from Nimeguen and France, and to cause the French Ambassador to depart from hence, that your Majesty being publickly dis-engaged from acting as a Mediator, or upon such Terms and Conditions as were then proposed, your Majesty may enter into the War to no other end, than that the said French King may be reduced into such a condition; as he may be no longer terrible to your Majesties Subjects, and that Christendom be restored to such a Peace, as may not be in the power of the said King to disturb.

Monday, 18 March, 1677.

Resolved, That such Members of this House as are of his Majesties Privy Council do acquaint his Majesty, that there is a Bill of Aid passed both Houses, and ready for his Royal Assent.

Tuesday, 19 March, 1677.

A Message from his Majesty, as followeth.

C. R.

His Majesty hath received the notice sent him by this House, that the Poll-Bill was now ready for the Royal Assent, which his Majesty was well pleased to hear, and resolveth to pass it to morrow. His Majesty desireth this House to dispatch the rest of the Supply promised him with all expedition. The Sea and Land Preparations run great danger of being disappointed, if those Supplies be retarded. And it would be a satisfaction to his Majesty, that no more time should be lost in a time so necessary for the safety and reputation of the Nation, as the finishing of those Supplies.

Tuesday, 26 March, 1678.

Resolved, That an Address be presented to his Majesty, by such Members of this House as are of his Majesties most Honourable Privy Council, to desire his Majesty, that there may be a short recess, such as may consist with his Majesties Affairs; and that it is the humble desire of this House, that his Majesty will have such a regard to the time, as that there may then be a full House.

Wednesday, 27 March, 1678.

Mr. Secretary *Coventry* acquaints the House, that his Majesty was pleased to appoint, that this House might Adjourn until to morrow fortnight.

Monday, 29 April, 1678.

Ordered, That the Members of this House that are of his Majesties Privy Council, do attend his Majesty, and humbly desire him, that he will be pleased to communicate to this House all such Leagues and Treaties as are mentioned in the Lord Chancellors Speech, or relating thereunto.

Mr. Secretary *Williamson* acquaints the House, that the Persons appointed to attend his Majesty had accordingly waited on him; and that his Majesty was pleased to give leave, that the Leagues and Treaties should be forthwith communicated to this House.

Ordered, That the Members of this House that are of the Privy Council do attend his Majesty, and humbly desire his Majesty, that the original Proposals of Peace, Dispatch, and Instructions sent over into France by the Lord *Ferersham*, and the Answer of the French King, may be communicated to the House.

Tuesday,

Tuesday, 30 April, 1678.

Mr. Secretary *Williamson* acquaints the House, That His Majesty had Commanded him to acquaint this House, That the Proposals sent by the Lord *Feverham*, were the same *verbatim* contained in the Treaties Offensive and Defensive already delivered in. That the Answer of the French King was verbal. That he did not think them reasonable; and that if he should accept them, he knew not how to answer it to his People.

Saturday, 4 May, 1678.

Resolved, That the League Offensive and Defensive with the *States General* of the *United Provinces*, with the Articles relating thereunto, are not pursuant to the Addresses of this House, nor consistent with the Good and Safety of the Kingdom.

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this House, That his Majesty be humbly Advised and Desired forthwith to enter into the present Alliances and Confederations with the *Emperour* and the King of *Spain*, and the *States General* of the *United Provinces*, for the Vigorous carrying on of the present War against the French King, and for the Good and Safety of his Majesty's Kingdoms. And particularly, That Effectual Endeavours be used for Continuing the *States General* in the present Confederation. And that it be agreed by all the Parties Confederate, To prohibit all Trade between their Subjects and Countries, and *France*, and all other the Dominions of the French King. And that no Commodities of *France* or any of the Dominions of the French King, be imported into their Countries from any place whatsoever. And also, That all Endeavours be used to Invite all other Princes and States into the said Confederation. And that no Truce or Peace be made or agreed to with the French King by his Majesty or any of the Confederates, without General Consent first had therein.

Ordered, That such Members of this House as are of his Majesty's Privy Council, do present the Two Votes to his Majesty, and beg his Majesty's Excuse that they are not presented to his Majesty in the usual Form, by reason of the Importance of the Affair, and the Exigency of Time.

Monday, 6 May, 1678.

A Message from his Majesty, which is as followeth.

C. R.

HIS Majesty having been acquainted with the Votes of this House of the 4th. Instant, was very much surprized both with the Matter and Form of them; but if His Majesty had had Exception to neither, yet his Majesty having asked the Advice of both Houses, does not think fit to give any Answer to any thing of that Nature, till he hath a Concurrent Advice from both Houses.

Given at Our Court at *White-Hall*, the 6th. day of May, 1678.

Friday, 10th. of May, 1678.

A report was made of an Address to be presented to his Majesty, which is as followeth.

WEE your Majesty's most humble and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in this present Parliament Assembled, do in all Duty and Thankfulness humbly acknowledge your Majesty's great Grace and Favour, in demanding our Advice upon the state of your Affairs; in this present Juncture, wherein your Majesty's Honour and the Safety of this Kingdom is so nearly concerned. According to which Command of your Majesties, we did immediately enter upon Consideration of what was imparted to us by your Majesties Order; and after serious examination and weighing of the matter, we did Resolve upon an Advice, which because of the Urgency of Affairs, and the Expedition they require, we did present in that Form as was not usual in a matter of so great Importance, and which we then directed to excuse to your Majesty upon that Consideration. And because we apprehend the Dangers were so Imminent, that the delay of the least time might be of great prejudice to your Majesties Service, and the Safety of your Kingdom, after so much time already lost: We thought it necessary to apply immediately to your Majesty by our selves, which in matters of this Nature is wholly in the Choice of this House, and hath been frequently practised by us. And because these occasions are so pressing upon your Majesty, and the whole Kingdom so deeply sensible thereof, We most earnestly beseech your Majesty to Communicate to us the Resolutions your Majesty hath taken upon our said Advice, that thereby these Imminent Dangers may be timely prevented. And whereas the Commons conceive, That the present Inconveniencies and Dangers under which

the Kingdom now lyes, might either totally or in a great measure have been prevented, if your Majesty had accepted of that Advice, which in all Humility and Faithfulness, we presented to your Majesty upon the 26th of May last, and which we reiterated to your Majesty upon the 31th of January ensuing. The refusing of which Advice, and dismissing of the *Parliament* in May last, was the occasion of those ill Consequences which have since succeeded both at home and abroad: All which hath arisen from those Misrepresentations of our Proceedings, which have been suggested to your Majesty by some particular persons in a Clandestine way, without the Participation and Advice, as we conceive, of your Council-Board, as though we had invaded upon your Majesties Prerogative of making Peace and War: Whereas we did only offer our humble Advice in matters wherein the Safety of the Kingdom was concerned, which is a Right was never yet questioned, in the times of your Royal Predecessors, and without which your Majesty can never be safe. Upon which grounds your Majesty was induced to give us such Answers to those two Addresses, rejecting our Advice, as thereby your Majesties good Subjects have been infinitely discouraged, and the state of your Majesties Affairs reduced to a most deplorable Condition. We do therefore most humbly desire, That for the Good and Safety of this Kingdom, and the Satisfaction of your Subjects, your Majesty would Graciously be pleased to remove those Councillors who advised the Answers to our Addresses of the 26th of May, and the 31th of January last, or either of them. And we do further most humbly desire your Majesty favourably to accept this our humble Petition and Address, as proceeding from Hearts intirely devoted to your Majesties Service; and that as we have never yet failed of giving testimonies of our Affection and Loyalty to your Majesties Person and Government, so your Majesty may rest confidently assured, That we shall never be wanting to support your Majesties Greatness and Interest, whilst your Majesty relies upon our Councils, which can have no other End then what sincerely tends thereunto, notwithstanding any sinister or self-Interested Endeavours to make Impressions in your Majesty to the contrary.

And we further humbly beseech your Majesty, That the Duke of Lauderdale may be removed from your Councils and Presence.

Resolved, That the Members of this House of his Majesty's Privy Council, do attend his Majesty to know his Pleasure when this House may attend him with the said Address.

Saturday, 11 May, 1678.

Mr. Secretary *Williamson* acquaints the House, That the Persons appointed to attend his Majesty to know his Pleasure, when the House should present the Address, had waited upon his Majesty, and that his Majesty had appointed this Afternoon at Four, for the House to attend him at *White-Hall*.

That he had further Command from his Majesty, to put the House in mind of dispatching the Supply promised his Majesty; for that the Charge was so great, that his Majesty must be forced to lay up several of the great Ships already provided, and to disband as many of the Forces newly raised as he can, if he be not speedily supplied. And that the House would therefore take the matter of Supply immediately into their Consideration.

Monday, 27 May, 1678.

Resolved, That the House taking into Consideration the state of his Majesty's Affairs, and the great Charge and Burthen that his Majesty and the Nation lyes under by the Army now in being, are humbly of an Opinion, That if his Majesty pleases to enter into a War against the French King, this House is and always will be ready to Support and Assist him in that War; but if otherwise, then they will proceed to the Consideration of providing for the speedy Disbanding of the Army.

Ordered, That such Members of this House as are of his Majesty's Privy Council, do present this Vote to his Majesty.

Tuesday, 28 May, 1678.

Mr. Secretary *Coventry* delivers a Message from his Majesty, in answer to the Vote yesterday, which is as followeth:

Charles R.

HIS Majesty having perused the Vote of this House of the 27th of May, hath thought fit to return this Answer; That the most Christian King hath made such Offers for a Cessation till the 27. of July, as his Majesty does not onely believe will

will be accepted, but does also verily believe will end in a General Peace. Yet since that is not certain, his Majesty does by no means think it prudent to dismiss either Fleet or Army, before that time; nor does he think it can add much to the Charge; because the raising of the Money, and paying them off, would take as long time as that, although the speediest Disbanding that is possible were intended.

That in the mean time his Majesty desires some Supply may be provided for their Subsistence; that as hitherto they have been the most orderly Army that ever were together, they may be encouraged to continue so.

That there is another thing which presses his Majesty with very great inconvenience in his Domestick Affairs, which is the Want of the 200000 l. you promised to repay Him at your next Meeting after, and which does effect that whole Branch of his Revenue, by having a Fifth part taken out of every Payment, which should be applied to the Necessary Uses of his Household: He does therefore desire you will immediately apply your selves to the repayment of that Money to him.

Given at Our Court at White-Hall the 28. of May, 1678.

Friday, 7th. of June, 1678.

Mr. Secretary Coventry delivers a Message from His Majesty, as followeth.

Charles R.

HIS Majesty in his Speech to both Houses on the 23th of May last, told you, That if he were able he would keep up his Army and Navy at Sea for some time, till a Peace were concluded, if that must be: But because that would depend upon your Supplies, he left it to you to consider, Whether to provide for their Subsistence, or to Disband them sooner. His Majesty hath often since had his Thoughts employed upon the same Subject, and is every day more and more confirmed in his first Opinion, viz. That the saving a few dayes Expence, can no wayes countervail the prejudice that would arise from the parting with his Fleet and Army, if after that a Peace should not follow: and though it should, yet the hazarding so much upon a bare Presumption of the issue of a thing in it self altogether uncertain, and quite out of his own power, is hardly to be countenanced by any Precedent. His Majesty therefore again recommendeth to the Consideration of this House, his Advice of the 23th. of May last, That they would see the Effects of the Cessation in Flanders, before his Majesty be necessitated to Disarm himself; but more especially that you would consider of that part of the Army, which is in Flanders, which if he should recall before the Peace, it would be lyable to a very bad Construction, viz. That having taken several of the King of Spain's Towns into his Protection, He had without any reasonable Warning in order to their regarrisoning, withdrawn his Forces, and abandoned those Towns to the discretion of the Enemy.

Wednesday 23 October, 1678

Sir John Trevor reports an Address to be presented to his Majesty, which is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects the Commons in Parliament Asssembled, having taken into our serious Consideration the bloody and traitorous Designs of Popish Recusants against your Majesties Sacred Person and Government, and the Protestant Religion, wherewith your Majesty hath been graciously pleased to acquaint us; for the preventing whereof we do most humbly beseech your Majesty, That your Majesty would graciously please by your Royal Proclamation to Command all and every Person or Persons, being Popish Recusants, or so reputed, forthwith under pain of your Majesties highest displeasure, and severe execution of your Laws against them, to depart and retire themselves, and their Families, from your Royal Palaces of White-hall, Somersethouse, and St. James, the Cities of London and Westminster, and from all other places within ten Miles of the same; and that no such Person or Persons do presume at any time hereafter to repair or return to your Majesties said Palaces, or the said Cities, or either of them, or within ten Miles of the same, other then Householders, being Traders exercising some Trade or manual Occupation, and settled for twelve Monthis last past in Houses of their own, and not having any Habitation elsewhere, giving

giving in their own names, and the names of all persons in their Families, to the two next Justices of the Peace. And that it may be inserted in the said Proclamation, that immediately after the day limited for their departure, the Constables, Churchwardens, and other the Parish Officers, go from House to House in their several Parishes, Hamlets, Constabularies, and Divisions respectively, and there take an account of the Names and Surnames of all such persons as are Popish Recusants, or suspected so to be, as well Householders, as Lodgers, or Servants, and to carry a list of their Names to the two next Justices of the Peace, who are to be thereby required and enjoined to send for them, and every of them, and to tender them, and every of them, the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and to commit to Prison till the next succeeding Sessions of the Peace, all such persons as shall refuse the said Oaths, and at the said Sessions to proceed against them according to Law. And that your Majesty will be pleased to direct Commissions to be forthwith issued under the great Seal of *England* to all Justices within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and within ten Miles of the same, to authorize and require them, or any two of them, to administer the said Oaths accordingly. And that your Majesty would further please to Command that no Warrant or Licence be granted by the Lords of your Majesties most honourable Privy Council, or any of them, or otherwise, for the stay, return, or repair, of any such person or persons in, or to any of the said places, till some more effectual Law be passed for preventing the said Popish Conspiracies, and for the preservation of your Majesties Sacred Person, and the Religion and Government by Law Established, for which we your Majesties most Loyal and Dutiful Subjects will always employ our utmost Endeavours and daily Prayers. And whereas the safety and preservation of your Majesties Sacred Person is of so great a Consequence and Concernment to the Protestant Religion, and to all your Subjects, We do further most humbly beseech your Majesty to Command the Lord Chamberlain, and all other the Officers of your Majesties Household, to take a strict care that no unknown or suspicious persons, may have Access near your Majesties Person. And that your Majesty will likewise please to Command the Lord Mayor, and Lieutenancy of *London*, to appoint sufficient Guards of the Trained-bands within the City of *London* during this Session of Parliament; and likewise the Lords Lieutenants of *Middlesex* and *Surry*, to appoint the like Guards of the Trained-bands in *Middlesex*, *Westminster*, and *Southwark*, and other places adjacent, as shall be thought necessary.

Veneris, Novemb. 1. 1678.

Resolved, That an Address be presented to his Majesty, by such Members of this House, as are of the Privy Council, to desire his Majesty, that the Orders which he has given, that the Suburbs of the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, and parts adjacent, may be guarded and secured during this Session of Parliament, be put in execution.

Mr. Secretary *Williamson* acquaints the House, that he attended his Majesty with the Address, for Guarding the Suburbs of *London* and *Westminster*; and that his Majesties Answer was, That he would give effectual Orders for the Guards of the Militia accordingly.

Thursday, Novemb. 7. 1678.

The Address for Printing Mr. *Coleman's* Letters reported, and is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects the Commons in this present Parliament Assembled, considering how restless the Endeavours of Priests and Jesuits, and other Popish Recusants have always been to pervert your Loyal Subjects, and to reduce this Kingdom again under the bondage of *Popish Superstition*; and seeing how that notwithstanding your Majesties Goodness and Clemency, they have for several years past carried on a Wicked Design for the utter extirpation of the *Protestant Religion*, and the Government established in this Kingdom; and since we find it necessary to proceed against them with greater Severity than hath hitherto been used, We do humbly conceive, That the best way to satisfy the minds of your Subjects, and to stop the mouths of our Adversaries the *Papists*, whose daily practice is to raise Scandals upon your Majesties Person, and to defame the *Protestant Religion* and those that profess the same, will be to cause some undeniable evidences of their Transactions here, and their Correspondencies abroad, to be divulg'd, We do therefore most humbly desire, That your Majesty would be pleased to Order, that Mr. *Coleman's* Letter to Monsieur *Le Chefe* the French King's Confessor, dated the 29th of *September*, 1675. wherein much of the said matter is contained, as also another Letter of Mr. *Coleman's* to the same Person, wherein he owns the sending of the said Letter and Monsieur *Le Chefe's* Answer, whereby he acknowledges the receipt thereof, may be speedily Printed and published, for the present Satisfaction of your Majesties Protestant Subjects, until a further Narrative of the particulars relating to this Horrid Conspiracy, may be publicly set forth.

Friday,

Friday, 8th. of November, 1678.

Sir Francis Winnington reports the Address touching Conyers, &c. and is as followeth.

WE E your Majesties most Loyal and Dutiful Subjects, the Commons in Parliament Assembled, do humbly beseech your most Sacred Majesty, to issue out your Royal Proclamation, that certain Persons called George Conyers, Symonds, Thomas Bedingfield, and John Cattaway, who stand charged as persons guilty of the Damnable and Hellish Plot for the destruction of your Majesties Royal Person, and the Subversion of the Government, and the Extirpation of the Protestant Religion, and are fled from Justice that they cannot be proceeded against according to Law, do, by a day certain after the Proclamation thereof, render themselves to some one or more of your Majesties Justices of the Peace, who are thereupon to commit the party or parties so rendering him or themselves, to your Majesties Goal of the County or place where he or they shall so render him or themselves, there to remain in safe Custody; and to give present notice thereof to the Lord Chief Justice of your Majesties Court of Kings-Bench, in order to their receiving their legal Tryal; Willing and Commanding therein all Lieutenants, Deputy-Lieutenants, and all Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, Constables, and other your Majesties Officers and Loyal Subjects to do their utmost endeavour for the apprehending of the said persons and every of them, and for their Imprisonment and safe Custody. And that it be inserted in the said Proclamation, That the Constables, Church-wardens, Headboroughs, Tythingmen, Borsholders, and all other Parish Officers within the Cities, Counties, Liberties, and places of this your Majesties Realm and the Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed, do with all possible expedition make diligent Search and Inquiry in all houses within their respective Parishes, Hamlets and Villages, and there take an exact account of the Names and Surnames of all such persons as are Popish Reculants, or reputed so to be, as well Householders as Lodgers and Servants, and every of them, and to make up a present List of the Names and Surnames, Age and Quality of all such persons being of the age of 16 years or upwards, and to deliver the same forthwith to one of the Justices of the Peace near adjoining, to send for the said persons so listed, and every of them, and to tender to them and every of them the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy; and in case of refusal, to enter into Recognizance to appear at the next Sessions of the Peace for such City, County or Liberty; or in default of entering into such Recognizance, to commit them to the Common Goal, there to remain under safe Custody until the next Quarter-Sessions of the Peace; and then all such persons so refusing, to be proceeded against according to Law. And that special Commissions be forthwith issued under your Majesties Great Seal of England, authorizing the respective Justices of the Peace, or any two or more of them, to administer the said Oaths; and that all the said Lieutenants and Deputy-Lieutenants, and Justices of the Peace within their respective Jurisdictions, do proceed without delay to disarm all such persons as shall so refuse to take the said Oaths. And for the better effecting thereof, and bringing to Justice the aforesaid Offenders, that your Majesty would graciously be pleased to declare, That a Reward shall be given to such person as shall discover any of the Arms of Popish Reculants, or persons so reputed, and shall apprehend and bring before any Justice of the Peace any one of the said Offenders. And further, That all your Majesties Officers of or belonging to any of your Majesties Sea-Ports may be enjoined to take special Care for the apprehending of all Popish Priests and other persons; who they shall find cause to suspect, coming into or going out of this your Realm, and to carry every such person before some Justice of the Peace, who shall be required to tender to every of them the said Oaths; and upon refusal thereof, to commit the person so refusing, to the proper Prison of the place, and to certify their proceedings therein to your Majesties most Honourable Privy Council from time to time, that such further Course may be taken for the Safety of your Majesty and the Government, as in your Majesties Wisdom shall be thought fit.

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Saturday

Saturday, 9 Novemb. 1678.

Resolved, That the Humble and Hearty Thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty, for his most Gracious Speech this day made to both Houses of Parliament.

Mr. Speaker reports, That he had attended his Majesty, and that after he had given his Majesty the Humble Thanks of the House, his Majesty returned this Answer :

Gentlemen,

I shall always be my study to preserve the Protestant Religion, and to advance and support the Interest of my People.

Tuesday, 12 November, 1678.

Resolved, That an Humble Address be presented to his Majesty by such Members of this House as are of his Majesty's Privy Council, to desire his Majesty that a Special Commission may be issued forth for tendering the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy to all the Servants of his Majesty and his Royal Highness, and to all other persons, except her Majesties Portugal Servants, residing within his Majesties Houses of *White-hall*, *St. James*, and *Somerset-house*, and all other his Majesty's Houses. And that there may likewise Special Commissions be issued forth tendering the said Oaths to all persons residing within the two *Serjeants Inns*, all the *Inns of Court* and *Inns of Chancery*.

Wednesday, 13 November, 1678.

A Message from his Majesty as followeth.

C. R.

HIS Majesty having considered of the Address of this House of the 12th. Instant, desiring his Majesty that a Special Commission may be issued forth for tendering the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy to all the Servants of his Majesty and his Royal Highness, and to all other persons (except her Majesties Portugal Servants) residing within his Majesty's Houses of *White-Hall*, *St. James*, and *Somerset-House*, and all other his Majesty's Houses; And that there may likewise Special Commissions be issued forth for tendering the said Oaths to all persons residing within the two *Serjeants Inns*, all the *Inns of Court*, and *Inns of Chancery*; His Majesty is pleased that this Answer be returned, That as to all his Majesty's own Servants, all the Servants of his Royal Highness, all other persons residing in *White-Hall*, *St. James*, *Somerset-House*, or in any other of his Majesty's Palaces or Houses, except the Menial Servants of the Queen, and of the Dutches; as also all persons within either of the *Serjeants Inns*, or any of the *Inns of Court* or *Chancery*, his Majesty willingly grants it; But as to the Queens Menial Servants, who are so very inconsiderable in their number, and within the Articles of Marriage, his Majesty doth not think it fit. And his Majesty cannot but take notice, that in a late Address from the House of Peers for prohibiting all Papists to come to Court, the Menial Servants of the Queen and Dutches were excepted. And his Majesty hopes this House will proceed with the same Moderation as to that particular.

Given at Our Court at *White-Hall* the 14th. of November, 1678.

Resolved, That an Humble Address be presented to his Majesty by such Members of this House as are of the Privy Council, to beseech his Majesty that he will be Graciously pleased to grant Mr. *Bedloe* his Pardon.

Friday, 15 November, 1678.

Mr. Secretary *Williamson* acquaints the House, that his Majesty had been attended with the Address for a Pardon to Mr. *Bedloe*, and that his Majesty had accordingly granted it, and had given Order for drawing the same.

The Address for tendering the Oaths of *Allegiance* and *Supremacy* to the Queen and Dutcheffes Servants was reported, which is as followeth :

We

WE your Majesties most Dutiful and most Loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, having taken into Consideration your Majesties Message of the 14th. Instant, do humbly render our Thanks to your Majesty, for Graciously condescending so far to our Desires, and willingly granting that a Special Commission be issued forth, for tendering the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy to all your Majesties own Servants, all the Servants of his Royal Highness, and all other persons residing in White-Hall, St. James, and Somerset-House, or any other of your Majesties Palaces or Houses, except the Menial Servants of the Queen and Dutches, as also all persons within either of the Serjeants-Inns, or any of the Inns of Court, or Inns of Chancery.

As to the persons Excepted in this your Majesties Message, We your Majesties Commons do humbly Advise your Majesty, and renew our Desires, that they may be comprehended in the said Commission, for which we do with all Duty lay before your Majesty the Reasons following.

For the quieting the minds of your Majesties good Protestant Subjects, who have a more than ordinary Care and Solitude for the Safety of your Majesties Person, by reason of the notorious Conspiracy of the Popish Party at this time even against the Life of your Sacred Majesty.

By your Majesties Proclamation set forth upon the Address of both Houses for Banishing Popish Recusants Ten miles from London, there is no such restriction.

The discouragement it would be to the whole Kingdom to see so great a neglect, and the occasions that Papists would take from thence to say as they daily do, That our Fears are groundless.

It is too great a Countenance to the dangerous Factions who are already come to that height, that it renders all manner of discouragement on that side necessary.

It is against the Laws and Statutes of the Realm, which as they are preserved and maintained by your Majesties Authority, so we assure our selves you will not suffer them to be thus violated in your own Family and Royal Presence, and upon the account of Popish Recusants.

Saturday, 16 November, 1678.

The Address for issuing a Commission of Oyer and Terminer for Trying certain Popish Priests, reported, and is as followeth.

May it please your Majesty,

WE your Majesties most Loyal and Dutiful Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, having Information that Charles Mehaine hath continued in Custody in the Burrough of Denbigh in the County of Denbigh, since June last, upon violent suspicion of being a Popish Priest; and that William Lloyd now remains in Goal at Brecon in the County of Brecon, upon a Commitment for being a Popish Priest. And for as much as your Majesties Justice for the great Sessions for the County of Denbigh, at the great Sessions held for the said County in September last, did not Try the said Charles Mehaine for the said Offence. Your Majesties Protestant Subjects being much disquieted, and Popish Recusants animated by reason of Delinquents of that kind are not brought to speedy Justice, especially at this time of manifest Danger to your Majesties Sacred Person, Government, and Religion established by Law, proceeding from the notorious Conspiracies of Popish Priests, Jesuits and Popish Recusants. We humbly apprehending it to be highly necessary, as some ease to the hearts of your Majesties good Protestant Subjects filled with present fears of Popery, to have the Laws speedily and effectually executed upon Popish Priests, do with all humility beseech your Majesty to grant one or more Commissions of Oyer and Terminer for the Tryal of the said Charles Mehaine and William Lloyd according to the known and well established Lawes of the Kingdom. And we do further most humbly beseech your Majesty, that your Majesty may be pleased to Command your Attorney General with
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all Care and Diligence to prepare the whole Evidence against James Corker a Benedictine Monk, and who assumes to himself the Title of Bishop of London, for his Tryal at the next Goal-Delivery for the County of Middlesex and City of London. And we do further humbly beseech your Majesty, that your Majesty will Graciously be pleased to issue forth your Proclamation with a Promise of Reward to any person that shall apprehend a Popish Priest or Jesuit.

Tuesday, 19 Novemb. 1678.

An Address agreed upon, reported from a Committee, and is as followeth:

May it please your Sacred Majesty,

WE your Majesties most Loyal and Dutiful Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, cannot sufficiently admire your Majesties Love of Justice, and Care of your People, which have moved your Royal Heart to propose a Pardon and Reward to such as shall reveal the Murderers of Sir Edmond-Bury-Godfrey, whilst no Encouragement is given unto such as shall make a further discovery of the persons designing against your Majesties own Life, (which we beseech God long to preserve) and therefore we humbly beseech your Majesty so far to consider your own Safety, the preservation of the Protestant Religion and Safety of your People, which so much depend upon it, as to issue out your Proclamation, whereby some fitting Encouragement may be given to any who shall do so Important a Service, that so men of such wicked Principles may be discouraged from the like attempts for the future.

An Address agreed upon by a Committee, was reported, and is as followeth.

May it please your Majesty,

WE your Majesties most Loyal and Dutiful Subjects your Commons in Parliament assembled, having taken into our Serious Consideration what your Majesty was pleased to deliver to us this day in the Banqueting-House, and being most desirous not onely to express our Loyalty and Affections to your Majesties Service, but also to preserve your Majesties good Opinion of the manner of our Proceedings in the Commitment of Sir Joseph Williamfon, a Member of our House.

That divers Commissions were granted to Popish Officers, and Countersigned by the said Sir Joseph Williamfon, and delivered out in October last since the Meeting of this House, and the Discovery of the present Popish Conspiracy.

Divers Warrants have also been produced before us of dispensations contrary to Law, for Popish Officers to continue in their Commands, and to be past in Muster, notwithstanding they have not taken the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and received the Blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, according to the late Act of Parliament in that behalf. All which said Warrants were likewise Countersigned by the said Sir Joseph Williamfon. Which being Complained of to us, and confest by the said Sir Joseph Williamfon in the House of Commons, We your Majesties most Dutiful Subjects having the immediate Consideration before us of the imminent Danger of your Majesties Person, the Safety whereof is above all things most dear, and likewise the dangers from Popish Plots so nearly threatening the Peace and Safety of your Majesties Government and the Protestant Religion, were humbly of an Opinion, we could not discharge our Duties to your Majesty and the whole Kingdom, without the Committing of the said Sir Joseph Williamfon.

And therefore most humbly desire that he may not be discharged by your Majesty.

And we do further most humbly desire your Majesty to recall all Commissions granted to all Papists within the Kingdoms of England and Ireland, or any other your Majesties Dominions and Territories.

Friday,

Friday, 22 November, 1678.

An Address to be presented to his Majesty, for raising of the Militia, was reported, which is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Loyal and Dutiful Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, taking into Consideration the Imminent dangers arising to your Majesty and the whole Kingdom from Popish Practices and Conspiracies, and conceiving that nothing can so well resist their Attempts as some part of the Militia, the settled legal Forces of this Kingdom actually in Arms, on whom your Majesty may rely with the greatest Confidence and Security. We do therefore humbly desire your Majesty to Command your Lieutenants and Deputy-Lieutenants of the several Counties of this Kingdom, to give Order to all their Trained Bands to be in a readines, and to draw together one third part of their respective Militia, and to continue them in a Body for 14 dayes; and after they are dismiss, to draw up another third part for the same time, and to require them to be very vigilant in the seizing all suspicious persons, especially such as travail with Arms, or at unreasonable times, or in unusual Numbers. And we do likewise humbly desire your Majesty, to Command the Sheriffs of the respective Counties of this Kingdom, to be ready with their Posse Comitatus to suppress any Insurrection or disturbance of the Peace that may happen within the Precincts of their several Jurisdictions.

Resolved, That an Humble Address be made to his Majesty by such Members of this House as are of his Majestie's Privy Council, to desire his Majesty such Letters and Papers which relate to the Plot now under Examination, as have not been perused by the House, may be Communicated to them forthwith.

Saturday, 23 November, 1678.

Mr. Secretary Coventry acquaints the House, that he had attended his Majesty with the Address for Communicating such Papers as relate to the Plot which this House has not perused. And that his Majesty had granted the same, and had given order to my Lord Chancellor to call for the Papers back from the Lords so soon as their Lordships had perused them.

A Message from his Majesty concerning Sir Joseph Williamson, which is as followeth.

C. R.

HIS Majesty having received an Address the 19th. Instant from this House, is pleased to return this Answer, That he released Mr. Secretary Williamson several hours before your Address came, as he told you in the Banqueting-House he would do.

As to the Reasons of granting those Commissions, his Majesty acquainted you at large with them in his Speech when you last attended him; but in Answer to your present Address, his Majesty promiseth to recall all Commissions whatsoever given to Papists or reputed Papists either in England or Ireland immediately; and for his remoter Dominions, they shall be likewise recalled with all the Expedition the Safety of those places will permit.

Tuesday, 26 November, 1678.

Resolved, That an Humble Address be presented to his Majesty by the Members of this House of his Majestie's Privy Council, to desire his Majesty that Mr. Bedloe's Pardon may extend and relate to this day inclusive.

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A Message from his Majesty concerning Mr. Bedloe's Pardon, which is as followeth.

C. R.

HIS Majesty having received the Address from the House of Commons, desiring his Majesty that Mr. Bedloe's Pardon may extend to this day inclusive, His Majesty, is pleased that this Answer be returned, That Mr. Bedloe's Pardon to the First of November, is as full to all Offences as can be desired. If any Offence hath been committed since that time, His Majesty ought to know it before he pardon it; for a Pardon for an Offence to come, as a Pardon for a whole day inclusively amounts to, when it is granted before the day is expired, will not be good in Law.

Given at Our Court at White-Hall, the 26th. day of November, 1678.

Wednesday, 27 November, 1678.

Resolved, That whereas this House having been informed that Mr. Bedloe has something of Moment to impart to this House, relating to the Preservation of His Majesty's Person, and Securing the Peace and Safety of the Government, and conceiving himself to lye under great danger in concealing the same so long, That therefore this House does most humbly beseech his Majesty, That his Majesty will be Graciously pleased to grant Mr. Bedloe his Pardon for Misprision of Treason to the time of such Discovery, that he may not lye under any difficulty or danger in discovering the matter of his intended Information.

Four, 28 November, 1678.

Mr. Secretary Coventry acquaints the House, that he had attended His Majesty with the Address concerning Mr. Bedloe's Pardon for Misprision of Treason, and that his Majesty was pleased to return this Answer, That Mr. Bedloe should have his Pardon according to the Address.

Resolved, That an Humble Address be presented to his Majesty, to desire his Majesty that Mr. Oates may lye under no manner of restraint whatsoever, and that he may be allowed his own Servants to attend him, and the liberty of providing his own necessaries; And that His Majesty would be Graciously pleased to give Order, that he may have a present Sum of Money in hand, and a Competent Weekly Allowance for his Maintenance; And that his Friends and Relations may have free Access to him: And that his Majesty would be further Graciously pleased, that Mr. Oates his Pardon may extend and relate to this day for Misprision of Treason. That the Members of the Privy Council do present this Address to his Majesty.

An Address was agreed upon to be presented to his Majesty, was reported, which is as followeth:

WE your Majesties most Dutiful and most Loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, having received Information by several Witnesses of a most Desperate and Traiterous Design and Conspiracy against the Life of your most Sacred Majesty, Wherein to their great Astonishment, the Queen is particularly Charged and Accused. In discharge of our Allegiance, and out of our Affections and Care for the Preservation of your Majesties Sacred Person, and Consequently of the whole Kingdom, do most humbly beseech your Majesty, That the Queen and all her Family, and all Papists, and reputed or suspected Papists, be forthwith removed from your Majesties Court at White-Hall.

Monday,

Monday, 2 December, 1678.

A Message from his Majesty, which is as followeth.

C. R.

HIS Majesty having received an Address from the House of Commons dated the 28. of November last past, hath thought fit to return this Answer, That His Majesty will give a Pardon to Mr. Oates for Misprision of Treason, from the Beginning of the World, till the said 28th of November last past. That he shall have liberty to walk where he pleaseth in White-Hall and St. James's Park, and enjoy all other Liberties of Writing and Conversing which he had in White-Hall before Sunday the 24th. of the said November. He shall have a Convenient Allowance for all things necessary for him; but the Guards his Majestie doth not think fitting to remove, in respect of Mr. Oates his person.

Wednesday, 4. December, 1678.

A Message from his Majestie by Mr. Secretary Coventry.

C. R.

HIS Majestie to prevent all mis-understanding that may arise from his not passing the late Bill of the Militia, is pleased to declare, That he will readily assent to any Bill of that kind which shall be sendred to him for the Publick Security of the Kingdom by the Militia, so as the whole Power of calling, continuing or not continuing of them together during the time limited, be left to his Majestie to do therein as he shall find it to be most expedient for the Publick Safety.

The Address to be presented to his Majestie, for Securing all Papists, was reported, which is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, having sufficient Testimony of the present Dangers threatening your Majesties Sacred Person and Government, from the pernicious Plots and Contrivances of Popish persons universally spread over this your Majesties Kingdom, do most humbly beseech your Majesty, for the Safety of your own Person, and security of the Publick Peace of your Kingdom, to Command and require your Majesties Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace, Mayors, and other Magistrates within their severall and respective Counties, Cities and Places in England and Wales, to apprehend, disarm, and secure all Popish Recusants Convict, and all reputed Popish Recusants, and all others who shall or may be justly suspected Papists, and them to oblige into Recognizances with sufficient Bails, to keep the Peace and be of Good Behaviour; and in default thereof them to Imprison, and to return the Names of such persons with their Recognizances to the next General Sessions of the Peace for their respective Limits, to proceed thereupon according to Law.

Monday, 9 Decemb. 1678.

Mr. Speaker reports, That his Majesty had been attended with the Address for Securing and Disarming Papists; And that his Majestie was pleased to return Answer, That he would issue on his Proclamation according to the Desire of the House.

Thursday,

Thursday, 19 Decemb. 1678.

Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer acquaints the House, That his Majesty had Commanded him to inform this House, That he received Information that Mr. *Montague*, his late Ambassador in *France*, had several private Conferences with the Pope's Nuntio there, without Instructions from his Majesty; And therefore to the end his Majesty might know the truth of it, had Ordered Mr. *Montague's* Papers to be seized.

Resolved, That the House having this day received a Message from his Majesty, to acquaint this House, That upon an Information against Mr. *Montague*, his Majesty had given Order for seizing Mr. *Montague's* Papers in order to a further Discovery: This House cannot make any Judgment either in relation to their Member, or the Privilege of the House, which may be in a great measure invaded, unless his Majesty will be Graciously pleased to let the House know, whether the Information was given upon Oath; and of what nature the Offence is that is complained of.

Ordered, That this Vote be presented to his Majesty.

Monday, 23 December, 1678.

Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer reports, That his Majesty having received an Address from this House, to desire his Majesty to inform the House, if the Information against Mr. *Montague* was upon Oath. That his Majesty had Commanded him to present several Letters to the House for their Informations therein. Which he accordingly presented to the House.

Resolved, That an Address be made to his Majesty, humbly to desire his Majesty to have a greater Regard and Care to the Safety and Preservation of his Person.

Ordered, That the Members of this House of his Majesty's Privy Council, do attend his Majesty and know his Pleasure, When this House may attend his Majesty with the Address.

Saturday, 28 December, 1678.

Resolved, That an Humble Address be presented to his Majesty by the Members of this House of his Majesty's Privy Council, to desire his Majesty, That a Commission of Oyer and Terminer may forthwith be issued out for Trying the persons now in Prison for the Murder of Sir *Edmund-bury-Godfrey*.

Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer Reports, That his Majesty had been attended with the Address for a Commission of Oyer and Terminer for Trying the Murderers of Sir *Edmund-bury-Godfrey*; and that his Majesty returned Answer, *That it should be immediately done.*

Saturday, 8 Martii, 1678.

Resolved, That an Humble Application be made to his Majesty, to acquaint his Majesty, That the Matter yesterday delivered by the Lord Chancellor relating to the *Speaker*, is of so great Importance, that this House cannot immediately come to any Resolution therein; And therefore desire his Majesty, That he will Graciously be pleased to grant some further time for this House to take the Matter into Consideration. And that Sir *Robert Carr*, and the Lord *Russel* do attend his Majesty with this Vote.

The said Members being returned, reported, That having delivered the Vote to his Majesty he was afterwards pleased to return this Answer.

Gentlemen,

I Have considered of your Message, and do consent to a further time, which I appoint to be Tuesday next, unless you will find some Expedient in the mean time; for as I would not have my Prerogative intrenched upon, so I would not do any thing against the Priviledges of the House of Commons.

Tuesday,

Tuesday, 11 March, 1678.

A Representation to be presented to his Majesty relating to the Speaker, was reported, and is as followeth.

WE your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in this present Parliament assembled, do with all obedience return your Majesty most hearty Thanks for the Favourable Reception and Gracious Answer your Majesty was pleased not only to allow us a longer time to deliberate of what was delivered to us by the Lord Chancellor relating to the Choice of our Speaker, but likewise to express so great a Care not to infringe our Privileges. And we desire your Majesty to believe no Subjects ever had a more tender regard then our selves to the Rights of your Majesty and your Regal Prerogative, which we shall always acknowledg to be vested in the Crown for the benefit and protection of your People. And therefore for the Clearing of all doubts that may arise in your Royal Mind upon this Occasion now before us, we crave leave humbly to represent to your Majesty, That it is the undoubted Right of the Commons to have the free Election of one of their Members to be their Speaker, and to perform the Service of the House. And that the Speaker so elected and presented according to Custom, hath by the Constant Practice of all former Ages been continued Speaker, and executed that Employment, unless such persons have been excused for some Corporal Disease, which has always been alledged either by themselves or some others in their behalf in full Parliament. According to this usage Mr. Edward Seymour was unanimously chosen upon the Consideration of his great Ability and Sufficiency for that Place, of which we have had large experience in the last Parliament; And was presented by Us to your Majesty as a Person we conceived would be most acceptable to your Royal Judgment.

This being the true State of our Case, We do in all humility lay it before your Majesties View, hoping that your Majesty upon due Considerations of former Precedents will rest satisfied with our Proceedings, and will think fit not to deprive us of so necessary a Member, by Employing him in any other Service, but to give us such a Gracious Answer, as your Majesty and your Royal Predecessors have alwayes done heretofore upon the like Occasions, that so we may without more loss of time proceed to the Dispatch of those Important Affairs, for which we were convened, wherein we doubt not, but we shall so behave our selves as to give an ample Testimony to the whole World of our Duty and Affection to your Majesties Service, and of our care of the Peace and prosperity of all your Kingdomes.

The Members appointed to attend His Majesty with the Representation, being returned, Report was made, That his Majesty had been attended therewith, and returned Answer to this Effect.

Gentlemen,

All this is but loss of time, and therefore I desire you to go back, and do what I have directed you.

Mercurii, 12 Martii 1678.

Another Address to be presented to His Majesty was reported, and is as followeth.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WHereas by the gracious Answer your Majesty was pleased to give to our first message in Council, whereby your Majesty was pleased to declare a resolution not to infringe our Just Rights, and Privileges; We your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Commons were encouraged to make an humble Representation to your Majesty,

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upon the Choice of our Speaker, which on Tuesday last was presented unto your Majesty by some of our Members, We do with great trouble and Infinite sorrow find by the reports made to us by those Members at their return, that your Majesty was pleased to give us an immediate Answer to the same without taking any further Consideration, which we are perswaded if your Majesty had done what we then offered to your Majesty, would so far have prevailed upon your Royal Judgment, as to have given your Majesty satisfaction in the reasonableness of our Desires, and preserved us in your Majesties favourable opinion of our Proceedings. And since we do humbly conceive, that the occasion of this Question hath arisen from your Majesty not being truly informed of the State of the Case, We do humbly beseech your Majesty to take the said Representation into your further Consideration, and give such a gracious Answer, as that we may be put in a Capacity to manifest our readiness to enter into those Consultations, which necessarily tend to the Preservation and Welfare of your Majesty and your Kingdom.

The same Persons that presented the last having attended His Majesty with this, and being returned, reported, That His Majesty made Answer that he would send an Answer to the House to morrow Morning.

Friday, 21th. of March, 1678.

An Address was reported, which is as followeth.

WEE your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in this present Parliament assembled. being deeply sensible of the sad and Calamitous condition of this your Majesties Kingdom, occasioned chiefly by the Impious and malicious Conspiracies of a Popish party, who have not onely Plotted and intended the destruction of your Majesties Royal Person, but the total Subversion of the Government and true Religion established amongst us: All which our many and grievous Sins have Justly deserved. And being now by your gracious favour assembled in Parliament, as the great Council of your Kingdom, to Consult on such means as we conceive fittest to redress the manifold evils wherewith this Nation is surrounded, do in all humility beseech your Majesty, That by your Royal Proclamation one or more dayes may be solemnly set apart, wherein both our Selves and all your Majesties Loyal Subjects may by Fasting and Prayer, seek a Reconciliation with Almighty God, and with humble and penitent hearts Implore him by his Power and Goodness, to Infatuate and Defeat the wicked Councils and Machinations of our Enemies, and continue his Mercies, and the light of the Gospel to us, and our posterities, and particularly to bestow his abundant blessing upon your Sacred Majesty and this present Parliament, that our Consultations and Endeavours may produce Honour, Safety and Prosperity to your Majesty and your People.

Tuesday, 8 April, 1679.

The Address concerning Mr. Nathaniel Reading, was reported, and is as followeth.

May it please your Majesty,

WEE your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament Assembled, having according to our Duty made enquiry into the Damnable and Hellish Plot against your Majesties Sacred Person and Government; and for the Extirpation of the Protestant Religion, have upon examination discovered that Nathaniel Reading Esq; hath Industriously and against the Duty of a Loyal Subject held frequent Correspondencies with several Lords and other Persons that stand Committed for High-Treason, and also used his utmost endeavours to prevent and suppress your Majesties evidence, and as much as in him lay to stifle the discovery of the said Plot, and thereby to render the same Fallacious and of no reality, and by such

such undue means to prevent the Malefactors from coming to Justice ; Therefore We your said Commons do most humbly beseech your Majesty that you will be Graciously pleased to command, That a Commission of Oyer and Terminer do immediately Issue forth for the Tryal of the said Nathaniel Reading for the said Offence, that he may be brought to publick Justice.

An Address concerning the Earl of Danby, was reported, and is as followeth.

May it please your Majesty,

W*EE your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament Assembled, do most humbly represent to your Majesty, That the Earl of Danby, late Lord High Treasurer of England, stands now Impeached in Parliament of High Treason, and other high Crimes and Misdemeanours : And that he be the said Thomas Earl of Danby with an intent to delay and obstruct the Execution of Justice upon him, hath concealed and withdrawn himself. Your Majesties obedient Subjects do therefore humbly beseech your Majesty will be Graciously pleased to cause your Royal Proclamation to issue forth, Commanding the said Thomas Earl of Danby forthwith to render himself in order to his Tryal. And that your Majesty will be pleased to Command all your Officers, and Ministers of Justice, to use their utmost diligence to Apprehend the said Thomas Earl of Danby, and also to require all your Majesties Subjects that they, nor any of them, offer to conceal or Harbour the said Earl of Danby. And likewise that your Majesty will signify your Royal pleasure, That all the Officers of your Majesties Household do take care that no Person whatsoever do permit or suffer the said Thomas Earl of Danby to conceal himself in any of your Majesties Palaces. In the granting of all which your Commons will have great cause to rejoyce, and give your Majesty humble thanks for your Majesties great willingness to grant the humble desires of your People.*

Thursday, 10 April. 1679.

Mr. Secretary acquaints the House, That His Majesty had been attended with the Address concerning Mr. Reading, and also with that concerning the Earl of Danby. That his Majesty had given order for a Commission of Oyer and Terminer to be Issued for the Tryal of Mr. Reading, and will forthwith cause his Proclamation to be issued for the Apprehending of the Earl of Danby.

Saturday, 26 April, 1679.

Resolved, That an humble Representation, be made to His Majesty of the report this day made touching the Fire in Fetter-Lane, by the Members of this House, as are of the Privy Council, humbly desiring His Majesty, That he would be graciously pleased to grant his Pardon to Nicholas Stubs and Elizabeth Oxley for the discovery by them made in relation to the said Fire.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty by such Members of this House as are of His Majesties Privy Council, to desire His Majesty to Issue out his Proclamation requiring Gifford, Flower, Darby and Roger Clyton to render themselves by a day. And that His Majesty will be pleased to give Encouragement to all Persons that are not in Custody, that shall come and make discovery of, and be Instrumental to Apprehend any of the Persons that have been the occasion of any of the late Fires in and about London.

Sundays

Sunday, 27 April, 1679.

An Address was reported, and is as followeth.

WEE your Majesties most humble and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament Assembled, taking into our Consideration the great and apparent dangers, which have arisen to your Majesties person and this Kingdom, from the Horrible Conspiracies of Popish Recusants, who have been incited thereunto by Priests and Jesuits daily resorting into this Kingdom, and continuing here contrary to the Laws, whereby they incur the penalty of High-Treason, as also in contempt of several Proclamations issued by your Majesty by the Advice of both Houses of Parliament, commanding them to depart out of this Kingdom, and having received certain Information, That one Pickering now Prisoner in Newgate, who was Employed by some of the Conspirators to execute their execrable design of Murthering your Sacred Person, and upon his Tryal was found guilty, as also divers Priests and Jesuits, who have been Condemned by your Majesties Judges at the Old-Bayley, and in the several Circuits, do remain as yet unexecuted to the great imboldning of such Offenders, in case they should escape without due punishment: We do therefore most humbly desire, That your Majesty would be pleased to give order to your Majesties Judges and other Officers concerned therein, that immediate execution may be done upon the said Offenders to the Terror of all such wicked Persons, who by their daily Traiterous Practices do Justifie the Prudence of our Ancestors in making such Lawes, and manifest the necessity of putting them in execution.

Monday, 5 May, 1679.

The Lord Russel acquaints the House, That His Majesty commanded him to let the House know, That the Law shall pass upon Pickering; and as to the other Priests, That the House of Peers had sent for them in order to some Examinations. And further to acquaint them, to think of putting the Fleet in such a Posture, as may quiet Mens fears, or at least secure us from any sudden Attempts; and though his Majesty lyeth under great straights, yet he doth not, during this Session, intend to prefs for any other Supply, being more willing to undergo the burthen some time longer, then to interrupt you, while Employed about the Discovery of the Plot, the Tryal of the Lords, and the Bills for securing the Religion establishd.

Thursday, 8 May, 1679.

An Address reported, and is as followeth.

WEE your Majesties most Loyal and Dutiful Subjects, the Commons in Parliament Assembled, finding your Majesties Kingdoms involved in imminent dangers and great difficulties, by the evil designs and pernicious Councils of some, who have been, and are in High places of Trust and Authority about your Royal Person, who contrary to the Duty of their places by their Arbitrary and Destructive Councils, tending to the Subversion of the Rights, Liberties and Properties of your Majesties Subjects, and the alteration of the Protestant Religion, have endeavoured to alienate the Hearts of your Loyal Subjects from your Majesty and your Government, amongst whom we have just reason to accuse John Duke of Lauderdale for a chief promoter of such Councils, and more particularly for contriving and endeavouring to raise Jealousies and Misunderstandings between your Majesties Kingdoms of England and Scotland, whereby Hostilities might have ensued, and may arise between both Nations, if not prevented. Wherefore we your Majesties Loyal Subjects could not but be sensibly affected with trouble to find such a Person, notwithstanding the repeated Addresses of the last Parliament, continued in your Councils at this time, when the Affairs of your Kingdom require none to be put into such Employments, but such as are of known

known Abilities, Interest and Esteem in this Nation, without all suspicion of either mistaking or betraying the true Intrest of the Kingdom, and consequently of advising your Majesty Ill. We do therefore most humbly beseech your Majesty for the taking away the great Jealousies, Dissatisfactions and Fears amongst your good Subjects, That your Majesty will be graciously pleased to remove the Duke of Lauderdale from your Majesties Councils in your Majesties Kingdoms of England and Scotland, and from all Offices, Employments and Places of Trust, and from your Majesties presence for ever.

Saturday 10 May, 1679.

An Address to be presented to his Majesty, was reported, and is as followeth.

WEE your Majesties most Loyal and Dutiful Subjects, the Commons in Parliament Assembled, taking notice of the great resort of the multitude of Jesuits, Popish Priests, and Recusants to the Cities of London and Westminster and parts adjacent, and their obstinate continuance there, in contempt of your Majesties Lawes and Royal Proclamation, in pursuance thereof, And considering the great dangers that may ensue thereby, especially at this time of the approaching Tryals of the Popish Lords, now prisoners in the Tower, in whose behalf some desperate attempts may be made for prevention thereof, and for the better securing of your Majesties Sacred Person, We do most humbly beseech your Majesty, that you would be gratically pleased to give order, That the Militia of London, Westminster, Southwark, the Tower Hamlets, and the Countie of Middlesex and Surrey may immediately be raised and put in a posture of defence in such proportions, and for such time as your Majesty shall think fit.

Wednesday 14 May, 1679.

Most Dread Sovereign,

WEE your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament Assembled, do with all humble gratitude acknowledge the most gracious assurances your Majesty hath been pleased to give us, of your constant Care to do every thing that may preserve the Protestant Religion, of your firm resolution to defend the same to the utmost, and your Royal endeavours that the security of that blessing may be transmitted to posterity. And we do humbly represent to your Majesty, That being deeply sensible, that the greatest hopes of Success against our Religion in the Enemies thereof, the Papists, are founded in the execrable Designs, which they have laid against the Sacred Person and Life of your Majesty, which it is not onely our Duty, but our Interest with the greatest hazards to preserve and defend. We have applied our selves to the making such provision by Law as may defeat these Popish Adversaries, their Abettors and Adherents, of their hopes of gaining an advantage by any violent attempts against your Majesty, and may utterly frustrate their expectation of Subverting the Protestant Religion thereby in time to come. And further to obviate by the best means we can all wicked practices against your Majesty, whilst any such Lawes are in preparation and bringing to perfection, It is our resolution, and we do declare That in defence of your Majesties Person and the Protestant Religion, we will stand by your Majesty with our Lives and Fortunes, and shall be ready to Revenge upon the Papists any violence offered by them to your Sacred Majesty, in which we hope your Majesty will graciously please to be the more assured, as We our Selves are the more encouraged, in that the Hearts of all your Majesties Protestant Subjects, with the most sincere affection and zeal joyn with us herein.

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A Message from His Majesty, as followeth.

C. R.

THough his Majesty hath already at the first meeting in Parliament, and since by a word or two mentioned the necessity of having a Fleet at Sea this Summer, yet the Season for preparing is being far spent, and our Neighbours before us in their preparations, he cannot hold himself discharged towards his people, if he do not now with more earnestness again recommend the same to your present Care, and Consideration, and the rather from the daily expectation of the return of his Fleet from the Streights, to which a great arrear is due, and hereby he must acquit himself of the evil Consequences, which the want of a Fleet in such a Juncture may produce, and he hath not done this without considering, that the entring on the work presently can be no hinderance to the other great Affaires upon your Hands, but rather a Security in the dispatch thereof.

FINIS.
